

Sports Gauchos average loss in football season opener [C1]

Arts & Leisure Fine sense of scale in Altarena's 'Cabaret' [C12]

MORE INFO
For more information about the El Cerrito-Kensington Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT, call battalion Chief Dave Gibson at 510-215-4450.

Classes Show how to respond in disaster

Experts emphasize that emergency kits are key to a limited system

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — A major earthquake shakes the members of a suburban family out of their beds. They're scared but not panicked. Once the children and wife are safe, the father puts on a green vest with the letters CERT written on it and meets with other similarly garbed residents in the neighborhood.

Soon, the neighbors are turning off suspected gas leaks and helping people out of a burning building. They high-fived each other after successfully extinguishing an indoor fire.

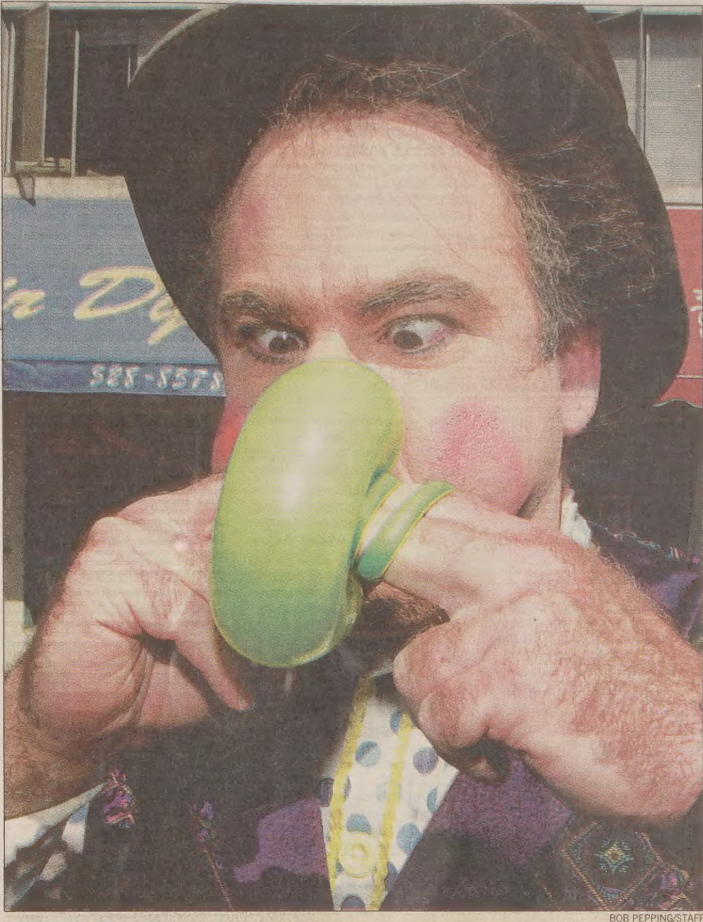
The scenario was a short film shown to about 20 people Tuesday night as part of El Cerrito and Kensington's Community Emergency Response Team, or CERT, classes.

Since 1992, the city has offered the classes, or something similar, through the El Cerrito-Kensington fire department, helping people learn what to do in the event of a disaster.

The free 20-hour program, which is experiencing renewed interest by some residents because of the Gulf Coast disaster, continues for the next eight weeks. It's still accepting students.

The program includes a joint meeting with Richmond on Oct. 29, through the majority of classes will be held at the Arlington neighborhood, a room illuminated

See DISASTER, Page A11



BOB PEPPING/STAFF



BERKELEY

Sunday stroll

BOSWICK THE CLOWN, above, makes a balloon snake for a child during the annual Solano Avenue Stroll and Parade on the border of Albany and Berkeley last Sunday. At left, firefighters and family members wave from a Berkeley Fire Department engine.

Ohlone Greenway playground gets city reprieve

Ad-hoc play area was a graveyard for retired toys, with liability issues threatened El Cerrito threaten closure

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — After threatening to shut it down because of liability and aesthetic issues, the city has granted a reprieve to an ad-hoc playground along the Ohlone Greenway.

Located on Oak Street between Central and Willow avenues about a block north of the El Cerrito Plaza BART station, the play area consists of little more than sand and some worn toys parents have dropped over the years.

They include two play baskets, a play staircase, a toddler basketball hoop, a slide,

a kiddie pool with sand in it, tricycles, shovels, and a few adult- and child-size patio chairs.

"We've pulled back, and we're going to approach this thing differently, where we will work with the neighbors to allow them to keep their own play equipment in the lot," Public Works Director Jerry Bradshaw said.

Diana Bickham, a resident who runs the popular Willow Street Schoolhouse out of her home, planted the seeds for the tot lot more than eight years ago.

At the time, she said, the city agreed to dump some sand in what had looked like a concrete shell. She brought the daycare children to play, and left a large blue slide for other children to use.

"Other neighbors just really in the past three years have been adding things to it," Bickham said. "That's just fine with us. Our kids were in heaven. And as



SHERRY LAVARS/STAFF

ETHAN ZAHNLEY, 2, shoots hoops at the "tot lot" along the Ohlone Greenway in El Cerrito on Tuesday.

adults, we were pulling things that were broken or dangerous because plastic degrades in the sun."

But parents weren't pulling everything, said Bradshaw. Some

of the broken toys threatened to become an eyesore and posed a liability to the city if a child got hurt.

See TOT, Page A11

City considers more funds for Cerrito Theater

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

The Friends of the Cerrito Theater are asking supporters to attend a Monday night meeting where the Redevelopment Agency will consider granting an additional \$980,000 toward the project.

"We just want them to know and see that there's a lot of community support for this project," said Friends co-chair Ann Lehman. "There is (support); I don't have any doubts about that."

The agency has already allocated about \$3.8 million toward the project, including \$755,000 that's been spent for the building acquisition as well as a loan to the theater operator. If the agency grants the additional money, the project will cost the agency a total of \$5.3 million.

Not everyone is in favor of it. Jeffrey Pryde, the manager of the nearby Pastime Hardware, said he didn't believe the benefit to El Cerrito would equal the money being poured into it.

"If it was really desired by the

IF YOU GO

■ **WHAT:** Redevelopment Agency meeting to discuss the Cerrito Theater

■ **WHEN:** Monday at 7:30 p.m.

■ **WHERE:** City Council Chamber, 7007 Mooser Lane, El Cerrito

■ **INFORMATION:** Call 510-215-4305. More information about the Cerrito Theater can be found online at www.cerritotheater.org or at www.el-cerrito.org.

city," said Pryde, "it should be a ballot measure."

If the agency grants the money, renovations that have been put off since early 2004 may begin as early as October, said Redevelopment Manager Lori Trevino.

"All the remaining steps would be between Speakeasy (the theater operator) and the contractor," she said.

See THEATER, Page A12

Albany school district overhauls lunch menu

■ Fresher, healthier food slowly replacing packaged, traditional cafeteria meals

By Shirley Dang
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Following the ouster of pudding and ice cream from the Cornell Elementary School lunch counter, it was a red plumed fifth-grader Brenden Habu snatched to round out his meal.

The beef tacos with fresh diced tomato and lettuce mark a vast improvement over last year's packaged rendition. That came reheated to lukewarm, smothered with beans and lacked vegetables, he said.

"Last year's was all fake and nasty," Brenden said.

Bowing to pressure from parents worried about youth obesity and diabetes, Albany school district leaders are slowly overhauling their corn dog-laden menu with fresher fare at elementary and middle schools.

In place of the packaged chili cheese burritos of yesteryear, students savor chicken and veggie rice bowls. Fresh fruit accompanies each meal. The odd nugget still appears on the cafeteria calendar, but this year they come vegetarian.

"We need to play a part in turning around the trend toward childhood obesity and diabetes," said school board member Miriam Walden. "At the very least, the food needs to be as good as the food they would be served at home."

The demand for healthier food on campus has become a groundswell. Last week, the Legislature passed two bills, one ban-



JOANNA JHANDA/STAFF

NAOMI JACOBSON, 8, of Cornell Elementary opts for the \$3 school lunch, which offers tacos, fresh fruit and milk.

ning junk foods and the other sodas on public school campuses. Forty-two states have enacted or proposed legislation on school nutrition guidelines, according to the Health Policy Tracking Service.

"The writing is on the wall. People are starting to read it," said nutritionist Andrea Giancoli, spokeswoman for the American Dietetic Association.

More than 15 percent of American youths are overweight, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In August, the California Center for Public Health Advocacy counted 28 percent of the state's children as too heavy for their own good, making them more prone to diseases such as Type 2 diabetes.

See LUNCH, Page A12

INSIDE

Homicide

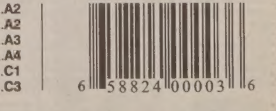
■ Police have few clues about the shooting death of a 20-year-old last weekend. Page A2



At the Library

■ Julie Winkelstein talks about how libraries have responded to Hurricane Katrina. Page A5

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NEWS BRIEFS

El Cerrito

Design Review Board to review condo plan

The city's Design Review Board will review a proposal for a 128-unit condominium development on the southeast corner of El Cerrito Plaza at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday at the Council Chamber, 7007 Mooser Lane.

The board will advise the planning commission on whether to approve the project based on its benefit to the city. The project, which will restore a section of Cerrito Creek, fails to meet the city's building standards for height, parking, density and private open space. The planning commission will consider the project Oct. 5. For more information, call 510-215-4330.

— Alan Lopez

Democratic Club schedules meeting

The next meeting of the El Cerrito Democratic Club will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 27, at the Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave. The meeting will include a talk on Prop. 73 by Heather Hoell, the vice president of public for Planned Parenthood: Shasta-Diablo. Set for the Nov. 8 ballot, Prop. 73 would require providers to notify parents of girls under the age of 18 before offering an abortion. For more information, call 510-527-2194.

— Alan Lopez

Human Relations Commission talk slated

The El Cerrito Human Relations Commission will hold its third annual Celebration of Diversity Forum from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 15, at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane.

The free event will include a screening of the one-hour film "Not In Our Town — Northern California." The film shows how five Northern California communities have taken action against hate crimes. Following the screening, there will be a facilitated conversation to determine how the local community should respond to hate. Light refreshments will be served.

Event sponsors include El Cerrito, Contra Costa County Supervisor John Gioia, the Islamic Networks Group, the Rainbow Community Center, the Baha'i of El Cerrito, the El Cerrito branch of the NAACP, the El Cerrito High School PTSA, the Greater Richmond Interfaith Program, the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce, and the El Cerrito High School Safety Committee. For more information, call event coordinator Brenda Gaspar at 510-733-4940, ext. 221.

— Alan Lopez

Residents to stuff backpacks for victims

Residents are invited to donate toys and school supplies and stuff them into backpacks that will be sent to children affected by the Gulf Coast hurricane.

El Cerrito resident Denise Sangster said she and about 20 to 30 other neighbors in the Arlington Park Neighborhood will stuff 100 backpacks starting at 3 p.m. today at her home, 1140 Arlington Blvd. "We will do it in my backyard," said Sangster. "The more, the merrier."

The backpacks will include toys, toiletries and school supplies for children in Kindergarten through the fifth grade. Sangster is accepting donations of new items.

The backpack project emerged out of efforts by parents at Crestmont Elementary School in Richmond, Cornell Elementary School in Albany and Madera Elementary School in El Cerrito.

The stuffing will continue at 1 p.m. Sunday at Cornell, 920 Talbot Ave. For more information, call Sangster at 510-965-9397.

— Alan Lopez

Berkeley

Plea hearing reset in woman's slaying

A Berkeley man charged with murder in the shooting death of Dartmouth College student Meleia Willis-Starbuck appeared in court Tuesday but postponed entering a plea in the case.

Christopher Larry Wilson Jr., 20, was ordered to return to Alameda County Superior Court on Oct. 4 to enter a plea to charges that he participated in the July 17 slaying of Willis-Starbuck, a close friend, by driving the suspected gunman to and from the scene of the shooting near UC Berkeley.

The second suspect, Christopher Lester Hollis, 21, has not been apprehended.

Berkeley Police on Tuesday offered no new details about their search for Hollis, of Hayward, who attended Berkeley High School with Wilson and Willis-Starbuck.

The early morning shooting occurred after Willis-Starbuck and a group of female friends had an argument with a group of young men they met on the street.

Wilson is living with members of a Berkeley family who in July put up the equity in their home to secure a \$326,000 bond to gain his release from jail. His attorney said he has a job and is taking courses at Vista College in Berkeley.

— Guy Ashley

BART incident may draw murder charge

BART police want prosecutors to charge a 20-year-old transient with attempted murder after four people were injured during an attempted robbery at the North Berkeley BART station.

Witnesses said Mark LaGrone slashed at three people with a knife when they came to the aid of a woman he was allegedly trying to rob on the platform about 7:10 p.m. Sunday, said BART spokesman Linton Johnson.

LaGrone was arrested on suspicion of attempted robbery. BART police are asking the Alameda County district attorney to also charge him with four counts of attempted murder.

BART police Lt. Gary Cagaanan said the intended victim and another person were treated at the scene, and two others were taken to area hospitals. One was released Sunday night with an arm injury, and the other, who suffered facial injuries, will require surgery, Johnson said. LaGrone was not injured.

Police believe LaGrone is responsible in several other Bay Area robberies, Johnson said.

The entire station was shut down until about 7:30 when tracks were opened to allow trains through. The station reopened for stops about 11:25 p.m., Johnson said.

— Kelli Phillips

ALBANY POLICE REPORTS

Tuesday, Sept. 6

■ **HONDA RECOVERED** — Officers recovered a white 1993 Honda Accord on the 900 block of Fillmore Street that had been stolen. The owner picked up the car.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Someone broke into a 1993 Geo Prism parked on the 800 block of Washington Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Someone shattered the rear window of a gold 1999 Cadillac that was parked on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **OUTSTANDING WARRANTS** — At about 12:30 p.m., officers contacted two men acting suspiciously on the 500 block of Cleveland Avenue. They arrested one of the men for two outstanding Albany warrants for possession of a controlled substance totaling \$4,000.

■ **TOOLS STOLEN AND WALLET FOUND** — A resident on the 1000 block of Nelson Street reported that someone stole tools out of his shed. He also reported finding a wallet on his driveway.

■ **NO-BAIL WARRANT** — At about 1:30 p.m., officers arrested a woman near San Pablo Avenue and Buchanan Street because she had a

no-bail warrant from Contra Costa County for DUI.

Wednesday, Sept. 7

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Someone broke into a red 1992 Toyota Corolla parked in a parking space at an apartment building on the 600 block of Stannage Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **COPPER LINE STOLEN** — Someone stole a copper sewer line from the 500 block of Cleveland Avenue. There were no witnesses.

■ **TOYOTA RECOVERED** — Offices located a red 1992 Toyota Tercell on the 600 block of Cleveland Avenue that had been reported as stolen from Richmond. The owner was notified, and the car towed.

Thursday, Sept. 8

■ **DOUBLE ARREST** — At about 2 a.m., officers arrested a Richmond man driving a white 1998 Ford Explorer for driving without a license and possession of burglary tools. They also arrested the passenger, another Richmond man, for possession of burglary tools.

Friday, Sept. 9

■ **TRAILER STOLEN** — Someone

stole a trailer from a lot on the 1000 block of Eastshore. There were no witnesses.

Saturday, Sept. 10

■ **NO-BAIL WARRANT** — Shortly after midnight, officers stopped a Richmond man driving a green 1996 Honda Civic on the on-ramp to west Interstate 580 for a vehicle code violation. They arrested him when he was found to have a no-bail warrant from San Mateo for reckless driving.

■ **DUI** — Shortly before 1 a.m., officers arrested an El Cerrito man driving a blue 1996 Chevrolet near Santa Fe Avenue and Ward Streets for DUI.

■ **DUI** — At about 3 a.m., officers arrested a Foster City man driving a green 1995 Chevrolet Camaro for DUI.

■ **AUTO BREAK-IN** — Someone broke into a gray Mitsubishi Mirage parked on the 800 block of Adams Street in an apartment parking space. There were no witnesses.

Sunday, Sept. 11

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — At about 3:30 p.m., officers arrested a man near Santa Fe and Solano av-

enues for being drunk.

■ **HOME BREAK-IN** — At about 11 p.m., a caller reported that a burglar was seen entering a house on the 1000 block of Eastshore. There were no witnesses.

■ **DISORDERLY CONDUCT** — Officers arrested a man on the 1000 block of Solano Avenue for being drunk in public at about 11 p.m.

■ **LOST AND FOUND** — Solano Stroll, officers took children and two lost dogs to families.

■ **PETTY THEFT** — A man was arrested for stealing Target Store on the 1000 Eastshore reported being in custody for stealing Target. There were no witnesses.

Weekly summary

During the week of Sept. 12, there were 13 vehicle accidents, 10 false alarms, 10 stolen vehicles, 10 or injured animals, 10 people who were locked out of their homes or cars, and 10 reports of barking dogs. There were 14 civil disturbances and 14 assists. Officers stopped 10 persons, issuing 26 64 warnings. Albany firefighters responded to 11 medical emergencies.

Friday, Sept. 9

■ **BURGLARY** — A man and jewelry were taken from the 1700 block of Kearney Street.

Saturday, Sept. 10

■ **PURSE STOLEN** — A woman's purse was taken from a Volkswagen on the 1000 block of Albany Avenue between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. on the 900 block of Albany Avenue.

■ **ACCORD STOLEN** — A Honda Accord was stolen from the 6500 block of Gladys Avenue.

Sunday, Sept. 11

■ **STEREO, WATCH STOLEN** — A stereo and watch were taken from a vehicle sometime between Sept. 11 and noon Sept. 11, on the 500 block of Liberty Street.

Friday, Sept. 2

■ **MOTORCYCLE STOLEN** — A 1992 Yamaha Seca II motorcycle was taken sometime between 6 p.m. Sept. 2 and 2:30 p.m. Sept. 6 from the 1600 block of Kearney Street.

Monday, Sept. 5

■ **CRESSIDA STOLEN, FOUND** — A 1986 Toyota Cressida was taken from the 900 block of Lexington Avenue sometime between 8 p.m. Sept. 5 and 6:30 a.m. Sept. 6. Police later recovered the vehicle on the 700 block of Kearney Street.

Tuesday, Sept. 6

■ **ROBBERY** — At 7:45 a.m., a woman was robbed of her iPod as she walked on the 1700 block of Eastshore Boulevard. A boy about 14 years old grabbed the device out of the woman's hands.

■ **ROBBERY** — At 9:05 p.m., a

woman was robbed of her purse on the 10600 block of San Pablo Ave. The man ran southbound from Longs to the 900 block of Kearney Street.

■ **PICK-UP STOLEN** — A 1993 Ford F150 pick-up truck was taken between 5 p.m. Sept. 6 and noon Sept. 8 from the 600 block of Elm Street.

■ **CHANGE STOLEN** — Change was taken from a vehicle sometime between 11 p.m. Sept. 6 and 7 a.m. Sept. 7 on the 900 block of Lexington Avenue. A window was smashed as well.

Wednesday, Sept. 7

■ **STEREO STOLEN** — The in-dash stereo was taken from a 1995 GMC Yukon sometime between 3:45 a.m. Sept. 7 and 7 a.m. Sept. 8, on the 9900 block of San Pablo Avenue. The windows of the vehicle were all smashed as well.

■ **PURSE, STEREO TAKEN** — A purse and stereo were taken from a Ford Explorer sometime between

5:30 p.m. Sept. 7 and 7 a.m. Sept. 8, on the 800 block of Liberty Street.

■ **STEREO, CASH TAKEN** — A stereo and cash were taken from a 1996 Honda Odyssey sometime between 9 p.m. Sept. 7 and 7:20 a.m. Sept. 8, on the 400 block of Kearney Street.

■ **TRAILER STOLEN** — Someone stole a trailer sometime between 11:15 a.m. and 3 p.m. from the 11500 block of San Pablo Avenue.

■ **THEFT ATTEMPT** — At 6:15 a.m., a thief or thieves attempting to break into a 1986 Nissan 300ZX fled after the car alarm began sounding on the 800 block of Lexington Avenue.

■ **ACCORD STOLEN, FOUND** — A 1987 Honda Accord was taken sometime between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. from the 7100 block of Mount Court. Police recovered the vehicle Sept. 9 on the 1700 block of Walnut Street.

■ **STEREO STOLEN** — The stereo was taken from a 1996 Geo Prism sometime between 8 p.m. Sept. 7

Sporadic clues on homicide in El Cerrito

■ Shooting of Albany High graduate on a usually quiet street marks third unsolved death in a year for police department

By Alan Lopez
TIMES STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Remo Mario Reggi was a typical 20-year-old who liked girls, his tan 1988 Buick Le Sabre, and hanging out with his buddies.

It makes his death, the third homicide in El Cerrito this year, all the more unfathomable.

"There was no reason why anyone would be mad at him," said sister Monica Reggi. "He always tried to make peace with everybody."

Police say that about midnight Saturday or early Sunday morning, Reggi and a female friend stopped to park on Mooser Lane and Seaview Drive, a typically quiet spot, to admire the city's view of the Bay and Golden Gate Bridge.

A number of assailants sur-

rounded the car in an apparent carjack or robbery attempt, police said. One of them pointed a handgun at Reggi and a struggle ensued after Reggi grabbed the gun.

"Either he got shot while holding it or shortly after releasing it," said El Cerrito detective Sgt. Shawn Maples.

After the shooting, the vehicle rolled down the hill and collided with a parked car on the 7400 block of Mooser Lane. The passenger sustained minor injuries.

On Monday, gathered on the porch of the Santa Fe Avenue home in Albany where Reggi grew up, friends and several siblings remembered the 2003 Albany High School graduate as caring and cheerful.

He attended services regularly at St. Ambrose Church in Berkeley. When he was stressed out, he would take a drive in his Buick.



Reggi

"He loved his family a lot," said Monica Reggi. "His family and friends were very important to him."

"A lot of girls liked him, too," said friend Alvaro Villarreal.

Reggi once worked around the corner on Solano Avenue at Walker's Restaurant and Pie Shop. About a year ago he began working for Mike Endres Design and Construction in El Cerrito.

"He was quiet, not a real loud guy, but he seemed to be a hard worker," said Endres. "And he looked like he had a lot of potential as a builder."

El Cerrito typically sees between zero and two homicides a year, Maples said. The weekend's homicide brings this year's total to three.

At about 12:30 a.m. Jan. 9, 40-year-old Khalid Maqsood was shot at the Super Stop gas station at 11687 San Pablo Ave, the city's first homicide since

2001.

At 3:30 a.m. Aug. 21, 21-year-old Waleed Elahi was killed at the parking lot of the Hamburgers of America and Central avenues.

"To have three homicides in a year is a concern for the department," Maples said. "Unfortunately, none of them are related. Their relationship and no similarities between them together."

El Cerrito police are looking for anyone with information call 510-215-4400.

Remo Reggi is one of four siblings, Monica, Amanda and Andrew, parents, Diana and John.

Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Ambrose Church, 1140 Street, Berkeley.

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-3578 or alopez1@ccetimes.com

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A happy staff, achieving kids are music to her ears

Editor's note: While Martin Snapp is on vacation, we're printing one of his favorite past columns. It appeared Dec. 10, 2004. Nancy D. Waters retired in June.

HELLO? "Scoo bop doo wah de waddy, scoo dooten doo dot, bop doo bop doo wah de bop, bop dooten doo dot do!"

It could be only one person on the other end of the line: Nancy D. Waters, the scattering principal of John Muir Elementary School in Berkeley. But don't call her Ms. Waters; only the kids do that.

Everyone over school age calls her Nancy D., her stage name ever since she went through college on a music scholarship. (Her favorite instrument: baritone sax.) I read last week that John Muir is one of only 35 schools in the state nominated for the prestigious No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon award, so I called to ask her how she did it.

It didn't take her long to set the straight. For one thing, she didn't do anything. To hear her tell it, it's all due to her staff, including custodian Anthony Brown and school secretary Gerry Furuzawa. Her staff see it somewhat differently.

You couldn't pay me enough to teach anywhere else," says K-5 resource specialist Christy Smith. "The respect and love she gives to everyone is incredible. Everyone here — students, teachers, staff — have such high expectations for themselves."

"I have a secret," says Nancy D., "it's that I remember what it's like to be a teacher. My job is to make their jobs as easy as possible."

Walking around the school with Nancy D. is like following in the wake of the Pied Piper. There are 245 kids in the school, and she knows each one personally.

As we pass a bulletin board under compositions titled "I got an A on my essay!" she spots a line of kids filing quietly to the playground.

Nancy D. breaks into an impromptu boogie woogie: "Oh, I like the way you have of walking! I like the way you walk without talking!"

The kids beam. "When she first came here and began singing to the kids, was almost shocking," remembers fourth-fifth-grade



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

teacher Stephen Rutherford. "But we quickly discovered she is who she is."

The name of the game at John Muir is positive reinforcement. At each Monday morning assembly, individual children are singled out for Life Skills Awards and asked to stand while Nancy D. reads their citations to the entire school.

For instance, this week first-grader Chyna Banks won Caring and Friendship awards for "helping her classmates daily." Her classmate Idania Perez won Respect and Cooperation awards for "being focused on the teacher and always being ready to follow directions." Kindergarten Chandler Vu won an initiative award for "always thinking up new games." And kindergarten Remi Cook won Cooperation and Courage awards because "Remi read to the whole class when the teacher lost her voice!"

And the kids eat it up. At classroom after classroom I visited, they were all focused on the lesson. Nobody was bored, and nobody was acting up.

In Nancy D.'s office, tiny busts of Beethoven and Louis Armstrong share shelf space with a vase of fresh flowers from a grateful parent. The card reads, "To the best principal in the country."

On her desk sits a huge jar filled with what she calls "quality chocolates." "It's for the staff," she says. "It's meant to get them to pop in and say hi."

There's also a picture of her mother, Pauline Waters, who died 10 years ago. The daughter of a sharecropper, Pauline never made it past the fourth grade.

"I still wear her ring," says Nancy D., who is the first member of her family to go to college. "Every day when I put it on, it reminds me to be more like her: kind, generous, and a lot of fun to be around."

Mission accomplished, Nancy D.

Reach Martin Snapp at 510-262-2768 or e-mail msnapp@cctimes.com.

FACES AND PLACES

Statewide Coastal Cleanup set for Saturday

Saturday offers an opportunity to undo some of the damage done to the shoreline the rest of the year as volunteers in the East Bay and statewide take part in the 21st annual California Coastal Cleanup Day from 9 a.m.-noon.

The California Coastal Commission first organized statewide Cleanup Day in 1986. The annual event was an immediate success and has grown each year. In 1993, more than 50,000 people volunteered for California Coastal Cleanup Day, and the effort was recognized by Guinness Book of Records as "the largest garbage collection ever organized." In 2004, volunteers picked up a whopping 915,000 pounds of debris.

Local cleanup efforts include: ■ **Albany:** Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the foot of Buchanan behind the Golden Gate fields race track by the big bench. Bring rakes or sand sifters for small plastic particles in the sand; drinking water, and gloves. For more information call 510-528-5760. Groups of 10 or more should pre-register.

■ **El Cerrito:** Friends of Five Creeks will be doing work at Cerrito Creek starting at 10 a.m. to remove litter and invasive weeds. A short nature walk to tidal reaches and former Indian sites follows, and the event ends with an optional bring-your-own picnic on the grass. Meet at the south end of Yosemite Street (two blocks west of San Pablo Avenue, south of Central Avenue). Details: 510-848-9358 or fivecreeks.org.

You should wear sturdy shoes and a hat and bring sunscreen, as well as gloves if you have them. If it's foggy, make sure to bring warm clothing. For general information, visit coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html.

—Chris Treadway

The community is invited to celebrate "Hilltop Homecoming" at renovated Kensington Elementary School from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24.

Local government officials and members of the West Contra Costa school district facilities team responsible for getting the job done will be attending the event to for-



BARBARA COOPER

GIRLS SCOUTS, from left, Celia Shure, Allison Cooper, Ariana Young and Natalie Buck-Bauer of Albany Troop 2682 were recently awarded the Girl Scout Silver Award.

ally dedicate the new school, and assist Principal Jon Stokes with the ribbon cutting. Several former Kensington teachers are also expected to attend. The event will include tours of the new facility, live jazz music, exhibition of memorabilia, and a cake cutting. Tea and coffee will be served. Some teachers have volunteered to be photographed with former students with instant pictures as souvenirs.

To RSVP, e-mail HilltopReunion05@aol.com or call Esther Hill at 510-524-3713.

—Craig Lazzaretti

Albany High School sophomores Celia Shure, Allison Cooper, Ariana Young and Natalie Buck-Bauer, members of Albany Girl Scout Troop 2682 since the first grade, recently received the Girl Scout Silver Award — the highest award given in the Cadette level of Girl Scouting. The culmination of their hard work was a holiday crafts fair for more than 100 girls and a warm clothing collection for homeless people.

—Craig Lazzaretti

Sponsored by the El Cerrito, Albany and Kensington fire departments, Tri-City Safety Day will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 24, at El Cerrito Plaza. The event will include safety information and demonstrations as well as appearances

by Sparky the fire dog, McGruff the crime dog, and Smokey Bear. This year's event will also feature the El Cerrito Fire Department's new fire safety trailer, which simulates an actual house fire, and educates children on fire safety.

Residents can also register for an upcoming identification theft workshop. For more information, call 510-215-4450.

—Alan Lopez

The city of Albany will hold a blood drive from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 30, at the community center, 1249 Marin Ave. Donors must sign up in advance by going online at BeADonor.com or by calling 800 GIVELIFE (448-3543). The sponsor code is ALBANY.

—Alan Lopez

A fund-raiser benefiting the Albany Police Activities League will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 27, at Rubio's Mexican Restaurant at El Cerrito Plaza. Twenty percent of purchases will go to the league. Fliers required for the donations can be found at the Albany community center, 1249 Marin Ave.; the Albany Chamber of Commerce, 1108 Solano Ave.; and Arrow Glass, 640 San Pablo Ave.

The league provides wrestling programs for elementary and middle school students and runs the leadership program the Youth De-

velopment Council at Albany High School. For more information, call Albany City Councilwoman Jewel Okawachi at 510-527-5583.

—Alan Lopez

A fund-raiser preview of the amusement park museum and family fun center Playland-Not-At-The-Beach will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 15. Playland is located at 10979 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. The tax-deductible cost is \$25.

The preview will include games, prizes and food.

"This is the first time that the public has been invited to take a peek at what we have been building over the last two years," said proprietor Richard Tuck, in an e-mail.

The event will include a silent auction with rare Playland memorabilia for sale. For more information, call 1-800-548-5318, ext. 25.

—Alan Lopez

The El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce will hold its next business luncheon at noon on Tuesday, Sept. 27, at the Mira Vista Golf and Country Club, 7901 Cutting Blvd. Richard Tuck, proprietor of Playland-Not-at-the-Beach, will speak. The cost is \$16. RSVP at 510-233-7040 by Sept. 23.

—Alan Lopez

Sycamore Congregational Church in El Cerrito will hold its Sycamore Bazaar on Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. It will feature Japanese foods, handicrafts, plants and games. The church is located at 1111 Navellier St. For more information, call 510-525-0727.

—Craig Lazzaretti

Have an item about a scholarship, an award, an interesting vacation or other experience that you'd like to share with other Journal readers? If you have a photo, print or digital, we can use those, too (sorry, we cannot return print photos). Send it to the editor, by e-mail: journal@cctimes.com, or mailing to: Neighbors, The Journal, 4301 Lakeside Dr., Richmond, CA 94806.

Awareness being replaced by 'partial awareness'

Q: I read that awareness is the characteristic you consider the most important in maintaining mental fitness. Unfortunately, I lost the article.

Could you please remind me of why this is true and how to attain a high awareness level?

A: Awareness is certainly the component of mental fitness that I stress first and most often in the Mind Works program. Anyone who is not acutely aware cannot truly be fit mentally.

There are many activities that help improve awareness, and we use them all occasionally during class time. A prime example is the observation of a paper clip. An observation involves all five senses. Each "student" looks at, touches, listens to, smells and tastes a paper clip. The uses of a clip are not to be considered. This is strictly observation. The aim is to list 25 or 30 characteristics of a paper clip. What do you think of first as a quality of a paper clip? It's silver? Hard? Metal? Keep pursuing the characteristics until you have exhausted your supply, but remember, no uses are to be considered.

Another awareness activity is using all five senses to remember a walk that you took in another place — perhaps on Market Street in San Francisco. If you have never done that, use your imagination about San Francisco, or pretend you are in a different city. On a big busy street, what do you see? Hear? What do you feel on your skin?



CONNIE LYNCH
Don't Lose Your Mind

What do you smell? There are so many possibilities in a large city. Your memory is all-important in this exercise.

Another activity extremely helpful in this pursuit of awareness involves your immediate neighborhood and taking an actual walk in it. Again, use all five of your senses, and pay close attention to your area. Consider taking a friend with you to share observations, or just go alone. How well do you know your street? What colors are the houses? What kinds of flowers are planted? Again, the number of things to discover is endless. If you have a friend with you, ask each other questions about what you have observed.

Compare your awareness capabilities.

Recently I read a newspaper article that describes our current state of awareness as lacking. It was labeled "continuous partial attention." We have all seen car drivers paying less than full attention while they are talking on the telephone.

The constant presence of cell

phones is also a distraction. Personally, I find no reason to speak to anyone while I am otherwise occupied — for example, on a lovely walk outdoors in the sun. Yet I often meet other walkers yacking away while they are walking, totally unaware of their surroundings. What a waste!

Computers have also become very important for many of us of all ages. In the rush to do numerous things as quickly as possible, some people also abbreviate computer messages. I refuse to read or respond to messages that contain only letters such as U for YOU, or R for ARE. Taking a bit of extra time to be a bit more polite to people is bound to do some good.

There are even times when actually writing and sending a note — called "snail mail" in the article — is the most thoughtful thing we can do. Let's hope that people will work on becoming more aware, turn off their cell phones, and try new paths to improve their lives.

E-mail inquiries for Kensington resident Connie Lynch to con-niemiw@aol.com. Lynch, Ph.D., is the founder of Mind Works, a mental fitness program designed for older adults, and is the author of "Don't Lose Your Mind, Four Components of Superior Mental Fitness." For information on books and classes, call 510-466-5833.

ET OF THE WEEK

BERKELEY — The following animals may be available for adoption at the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.

Dogs: 10-month-old female Aussie mix blue merle; 10-month-old male pit bull/Lab mix; 8-month-old male shepherd mix white & brown; 10-month-old male terrier mix gray; 5-year-old male collie/shepherd mix sable; 6-month-old male shepherd mix black; 10-month-old male terrier mix black; 3-year-old male border mix black and white; 11-month-old male beagle/hound mix brown; 4-year-old female pit/shepherd mix black and tan; 3-year-old female Chihuahua mix brown; 9-year-old female rottweiler black and tan; 10-month-old male spaniel mix brown.

Cats: 2-year-old male DSH black; 1-year-old female DSH gray; 1-year-old male DMH gray and white; 5-year-old female DSH tortoiseshell; 1-year-old female DSH tortoiseshell; 1-year-old female DLH tortoiseshell; 3-year-old female DSH gray tabby; 8-year-old female DSH Tortie; 4-year-old female DSH dilute tortoiseshell; 1-year-old female DLH/Maine Coon; 3-year-old female DSH Coon black tabby; cats of various ages, sizes and colors.

DLH: domestic long hair; **DMH:** domestic medium hair; **DSH:** domestic short hair).

Adoption fee: dogs \$125; cats \$60; rabbits \$40 — including neutering and age-appropriate shots. There is an



BERKELEY-EAST BAY HUMANE SOCIETY

PINTO is a 3-year-old male domestic short hair cat who is white with black spots. Pinto was surrendered to the shelter because his owners had to move abroad and could not take him along. He is very affectionate, playful and inquisitive, but also mellow. For more information about Pinto and other animals available for adoption, call or visit the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society.

overnight hold period. The Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society is located at 2700 Ninth St., Berkeley. Its hours are 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Information: www.berkeleyhumane.org or call 510-845-7735.

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THE JOURNAL

"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."
— Thomas Jefferson

GUEST COMMENTARY Del Norte development needs further scrutiny

By Peter Loubal

EL CERRITO'S Redevelopment Agency said last month it is pursuing a housing project next to Del Norte BART, with the developer asked to submit plans within 30 days of signing a contract. No provision was made for BART's involvement. Yet 10 days after the city agreed to work with Olson Co. on the project, your newspaper reported this as transit-oriented development ("Del Norte plans have El Cerrito buzzing," Aug. 26 Journal).

If BART were interested, it would be on board from day one. The only buzz comes from buzz words. Needing to put redevelopment to work, staff prodded reputable home builder Olson Co. to bid for the Mayfair site. Unfortunately, it's the wrong place for housing and is needed for replacement parking, while other Del Norte BART lots are developed. The site agreed to for townhomes is the BART lots west of Key Boulevard to form a transition buffer between small homes east of Key and future San Pablo Avenue structures.

The City Council, Chamber of Commerce, Planning and Design Review Boards got it right in 1976 when they issued the "San Pablo Avenue Urban Design Plan," agreeing that housing does not belong on the Mayfair block. At Del Norte, "the zone between BART and San Pablo Avenue is impacted by noise from two directions, and is suitable only for commercial/office space."

It cost millions in redevelopment subsidies to get Del Norte Place built, yet now it desperately seeks tenants. County Supervisor John Gioia, a staunch "infill housing" supporter, took over a Del Norte Plaza storefront for his office but himself lives in more serene settings. Do any "teachers, firemen, cops" live there permanently? Except for seniors, the site is mainly suited for short-term living. The closer-to-BART Mayfair lot is even less desirable.

The Redevelopment Agency promised a full accounting of Del Norte Place — who lives there, how long, their car ownership and transit usage. The city mouths the virtues of transit-oriented-development as a smokescreen for the Olson project. But will BART agree to a land swap of equally sized areas, Mayfair for Key Boulevard?

There's an even more serious issue. The Central Avenue/Interstate 80 interchange mess shows what occurs when we ignore traffic growth. Del Norte is a major public transit bottleneck; the

only way it can remain functional is to double BART patronage over the next 20 years.

We need a comprehensive traffic circulation study before anything is built. As gas costs escalate, Del Norte must gear up to smoothly accommodate hundreds of more buses. Handle traffic circulation before anything else! Air pollution and noise don't kill as dramatically as floods, but they wear down the spirit.

Staff, politicians and their cohorts blindly promote housing, ignoring costs and impacts on the quality of life of folks living elsewhere. Transit villages make sense in the right spot, with adequate outside financing. But the politically less significant El Cerrito setting did not move BART in a positive direction in the past; it is unlikely to do so today. In El Cerrito, BART just waited for a plump project to fall into its lap, a megatheater at Del Norte, a "Measure C" garage" at the far corner of the plaza.

City Manager Scott Hanin says, "Our goal is not to have piecemeal development," as he mulls each ill-fitting piece. He kept the plaza neighbors in the dark, and kept the Cerrito theater bids secret to evade embarrassing truths. City Hall just scrambles for new projects to demonstrate "activity," as it echoes earlier pie-in-the-sky plans and covers up past dysfunctional ventures.

First figure out how to handle future traffic. Then let residents, BART and Olson agree on the use of available land and funds. Don't waste money on consultants to recycle bad decisions. Learn from past mistakes, get the plaza housing project accepted by Albany and the neighbors, see how the new Lumberyard housing fits in. Don't build dense housing in a traffic flood plain.

Redevelopment, so far, benefited consultants and staff, its "promise" helped fund political campaigns, but otherwise the more than \$40 million for projects was largely wasted.

Let's make sure Del Norte becomes a smoothly functioning transit hub, and then put the remaining parcels to proper transit village use.

Peter Loubal lives at Del Norte, has a doctorate in transportation engineering from UC Berkeley, and represents El Cerrito on the Contra Costa County Transportation Agency's Citizen Advisory Committee. The Journal encourages guest commentary submissions. If you would like to submit a commentary, e-mail it to journal@cctimes.com

YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Assembly

Loni Hancock: (D-14th District: Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Emeryville, Kensington, Richmond, San Pablo, North and West Oakland) State Capitol, P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249, 916-319-2014. Fax: 916-319-2114; 918 Parker St., Ste. A13, Berkeley, CA 94710, 510-540-3660; Fax: 510-540-3655; 712 El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito, CA 94530. 510-559-1406. Fax: 510-559-1478

East Bay Regional Parks

Jean Siri: Ward 1 (Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Kensington, part of Pinole, and San Pablo). E-mail: jsiri@ebparks.org

AC Transit

Joe Wallace: Ward 1 (West Contra Costa and Northern Alameda counties). E-mail: jwallace@actransit.org; phone 510-891-7143; fax 510-234-7689.

Stege Sanitary District

Phone 510-524-4668 or see online at www.stegesd.dst.ca.us.

NUMBERS YOU SHOULD KNOW

Emergency numbers

El Cerrito or Kensington fire, police or medical: 911.

Non-emergency
El Cerrito and Kensington Fire — 510-215-4450.
El Cerrito Police — 510-237-3233.

Kensington Police — 510-233-1214; business line 510-526-4141.

Sewer problems: Stege Sanitary Service, 510-524-4667.

County Supervisors

John Gioia: (1st District) 11780 San Pablo Ave., Suite D, El Cerrito, CA 94530, 510-374-3231. Fax: 510-374-3429. E-mail: dist1@bos.co.contra-costa.ca.us.

Keith Carson: (5th District) 1221 Oak St., Ste. 536, Oakland, CA 94612, 510-272-8695. Fax: 510-271-5151. E-mail: kcarson@co.alameda.ca.us.

Cities

El Cerrito: City offices, 10890 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. 510-215-4300. E-mail: citycouncil@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us

Albany: City offices, 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany. 510-528-5710.

Kensington: Fire Protection District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-527-8395

Police Protection and Community Services District 217 Arlington Blvd. 510-526-4141

School boards

West Contra Costa Unified School District: 510-620-2246

Albany Unified School District: 510-558-3766

Water services: East Bay Municipal Utility District. 510-287-1380, between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays, or 510-835-3000 after 4:30 p.m.

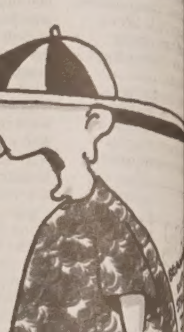
Libraries

El Cerrito — 6510 Stockton Ave. Open noon-8 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. Fridays and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturdays. Closed Wednesdays and Sundays. 510-526-7512.

Summer's over.
Time to lose the hat.



Doctor's orders.
Just keeping my youthful skin
from the sun's harmful rays.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Parcel taxes needed to help schools

The Journal article on the building boom (Sept. 2) was missing one very important fact. While the boom in property values and home improvement results in increased city and state revenues — it does not increase school revenues. School districts receive state funding based on the number of children in school.

Our state constitution requires that schools receive an increase when the state budget grows — but our governor has broken that promise. Here in Albany, the governor's broken promise has cost the schools \$1.7 million over the past two years. Now the Terminator wants voters to approve Proposition 76, which will give him unchecked authority to make additional cuts to the schools' budget — even in mid-year.

What can residents do to protect the schools where we live? We can start by voting no on Proposition 76 this Nov. 8. Unfortunately, the only way that our local community can raise tax revenues to replace lost state and federal funding is to approve special local parcel taxes for the schools. Albany voters will also have the chance to raise local revenue for schools by approving Measure A this Nov. 8. Healthy communities require healthy schools. Please join me in voting yes on Measure A this November.

Miriam Walden
Albany

Don't blame Bush

I don't know how some people missed early coverage of Katrina, but somewhere they missed the fact that Katrina did not swoosh into the Gulf Coast states overnight.

There was early warning that a hurricane was going to hit. Where were the governors, mayors and other officials? Why didn't they lead and demand evacuation, and provide those without cars with buses?

To blame Bush, who lives hundreds of miles away, is the easy way out.

Ann Pacheco
Albany

Gender is irrelevant

I firmly believe that anything is all right unless it hurts someone. For those who disfavor gay marriage, I ask if you are harmed by it. Not just offended. Harmed. Are you harmed physically? Are you harmed financially? I have seen no evidence of either from gay marriages.

If two persons love each other and wish to marry, their gender should not matter.

George Amberg
El Cerrito

Response too slow

Katrina has taught us that the United States and FEMA cannot immediately handle an emergency.

It took 34 hours to mobilize the military. We needed emergency personnel, whether U.S. or foreign, the second day. Instead, the United States government waited to approve foreign help and FEMA turned down aid repeatedly.

The United States could set aside a few acres on every military base in the coun-

try to warehouse supplies. When a base is closed, the medical facilities and some housing and offices could be set aside and maintained permanently for a major crisis.

Strict land-use laws and strong building codes are a must for hazardous areas around the country. Strong federal and state guidelines can help local planning and zoning commissions resist local pressures.

New Orleans should raze the land before we help pay for their rebuilding. People should not be allowed to build in a flood zone.

Holland can advise on water control and Japan on organizing people, but the true test is for us.

Are we willing to pay for an ounce of prevention with money and strong laws?
Elizabeth Pun
Albany

Don't forget our own

The people displaced by the hurricane have been left with nothing in many cases, no home, no job, lost family, and little or no money. The giving of time and treasure by so many people, as well as government, has been wonderful, and the need will be there for a long time to come. With all the TV coverage, it's hard not to want to help. However, we need to remember the needy in our own communities. We have food pantries, meals for the asking, clothes hand outs, but where is the massive government program helping with housing, jobs, etc.? The homeless in our cities are just as needy as the displaced people the hurricane has caused, and we should not forget that.

Betty Coates
El Cerrito

FEMA cuts caused people to drown

When I see American bodies drowned in a toxic gumbo, I'm not just embarrassed; I'm angry. The tragic aftermath of Katrina has been described in part as a failure of government, but the problem is more specific than that. It's a failure of this government. When you have a stated Republican agenda of "shrinking government to the size where you can drown it in a bathtub," this is the result: our fellow citizens die. The Bush administration and the Republicans in Congress cut FEMA's budget. They sent our state militias out of their states and overseas.

Homeland Security begins at home, by providing for the general welfare of the people. Thankfully, we live in a

democracy, where we can truly call it accountability. I only hope that in the national election, people don't forget which party bankrupted our country at the point where we could not effectively prepare to save our own people in our own cities. I know I won't forget.

Brad Marshall
Kensington

Farewell civil rights

Bid farewell to our civil rights if Robert is confirmed. He already unethically maintained on the three-judge panel which considered by George W. Bush helped give Bush a false victory in the fact that suspects can be held without charge or legal representation in direct contradiction to our Constitution. I'm sure he will make the same decision against American citizens when the time comes.

John Lee
Berkeley

Poor neighborhoods lack healthy food

Sandy Kleffman's article in Tuesday's West County Times seems to suggest that African-Americans and Latinos are more susceptible to the aggression of corporate advertisers as they try to feed their families on tight budgets. That's hardly the case.

Hop on BART and take a trip to the Oakland or Richmond's Iron Triangle where most of the residents are poor people of color. Walk around for a while and you will discover why they eat more fast food. It is all that is available to them where they live, work and learn.

While there are plenty of burger joints, greasy spoons, doughnut shops, and fast chicken buckettes, there are virtually no vendors of fresh produce. In many poor neighborhoods the only produce available is a \$1 dollar apple at a liquor store.

Mega-sized grocery retailers have left poorer neighborhoods as they focus their attention on competing with big box and specialty retailers like Costco, Wal-Mart, and Trader Joe's. After killing off most of the little guys, they are now struggling to survive the pressure of the newer, bigger bullies.

Corporations fight for middle class business, and suburbanites support them enchanted by our own shopping prowess. Meanwhile, poor kids in neighborhoods of racial minorities are growing up on French fries and soda.

Dennis Paul
El Cerrito

Governor's grade warrants 'poor' rating

I think that Gov. Schwarzenegger is one of those people who are so self-confident because they've been successful that they think they can never make a mistake and would never admit to one. He's another politician who puts his agenda first ahead of the general consensus. So my rating about his performance is "poor" in general.

Carmel Lee
Berkeley

WRITE TO THE JOURNAL

Letters to the editor and guest commentaries reflect the opinion of the writer and must include the author's first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification.

Letters are subject to editing for brevity, grammar and style. Not all letters may be published.

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Please write JOURNAL LETTERS on the envelope, at the top of the fax or in the subject field of the message.

Libraries contribute to hurricane relief

Quote of the week

"As we've been watching the human disaster of the hurricane unfold before our eyes, it's becoming clear that the real essentials of life are food, water and information. People in the middle of catastrophe need answers: Where are my children? ... How do I get my money from a bank when its electronic network doesn't work? ... How can I get my life back?"
— Marylaine Block, "Ex Libris" at marylaine.com



JULIE WINKELSTEIN
At the Library

the hurricane and its aftermath. The LSU site has an incredibly extensive list of links, including aerial photographs and librarian blogs, and NOLA.com has photographs and stories from hurricane victims.

Marylaine Block, who writes what she calls "a weekly e-zine for librarians," gives a great overview of the way that libraries have stepped in to help. She mentions the Houston Public Library and the Harris County Library, which are both supplying services and information, including library cards and free Internet connections. Shreve Public Library has been taking books to shelters and providing story-times to children, as well as accepting donations for basic necessities. Block comments on the competent, caring and prompt help provided by libraries in all the

affected areas, and she makes a good point about the critical importance of public libraries, as they are able to adapt and serve their communities.

When I went to the Houston Public Library Web site, I was overwhelmed by how quickly it had been able to set up programs, computers, hours of operation, a library of approximately 10,000 donated books, colorful furniture donated by Ikea, toys donated by Target, and 20 Internet computers — which can be used for filling out FEMA applications. All of this is at the George R. Brown Convention Center Shelter, "on the 3rd Floor, Ballroom A."

It is difficult not to reflect on the power and immediacy of this kind of disaster and the action that it invites. I am particularly happy to see organizations like libraries and the International Reading Association (reading.org), First Book (firstbook.org) and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (scbwi.org) on the many lists because I know they will do a good job in making sure that people and books and information are brought together. But I am also glad to see

them because it is situations like these that highlight those organizations who have been certainly and effectively carrying out their missions — and rarely making it to the front page of the newspaper.

The members of the International Reading Association are dedicated to promoting high levels of literacy for all, and they are focusing the funds received on the needs of children and schools in the disaster area. First Book hopes to contribute a million books to the children in these areas, and SCBWI is assembling "Comfort Kits" for displaced children. Each kit will include two books, a flashlight, a toothbrush and toothpaste set and a new toy or stuffed animal.

And the last words on the SCBWI Katrina Relief page sum up beautifully what all of these organizations are accomplishing: "Thank you for your kindness and generosity. Together we can make an amazing difference in the lives of these children."

Reach librarian Julie Winkelstein at jwinkelstein@aclib.org or at the Albany Library, 510-526-3720, Ext. 17.

LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

Friends of the El Cerrito Library will hold a bag book sale Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants can fill a bag of books for \$3. All sales are behind the El Cerrito Library, located at 6510 Stockton Ave. The sale includes children's books, cookbooks, histories, mysteries as well as other fiction and non-fiction titles. Memberships for Friends of the El Cerrito Library will also be available.

For more information, call the library at 510-526-7512.

Friends of the Albany Library will hold a book sale on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Paperback and hardcover books, CDs, tapes and records will be sold for 50 cents. Romance novels and magazines will be 25 cents or five for \$1. From 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., people will have an opportunity to fill a shopping bag with the books of their choice for \$3.

For more information or to volunteer for a two-hour shift, call Marsha Skinner at 510-526-1154 or marshaskinner@yahoo.com or Library Manager Ronnie Davis at 510-526-3720, ext. 5 or rdavis@aclib.org.

The Albany Library is located at 1247 Marin Ave.

Tom Panas, president of the El Cerrito Historical Society, will talk about the new "Images of America" book on El Cerrito on Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Albany Library. This program is part of the annual membership meeting of the Friends of the Albany Library. The public is invited. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call Ronnie Davis at 510-526-3720, ext. 16.

Amy Gitelman's pastel paintings of Kensington will be on exhibit at the Kensington Library from today through Oct. 31. Gitelman paints on location with pastels and is a resident of El Cerrito.

The Kensington Library is located at 61 Arlington Ave. Call 510-524-3043 for information.

Children of all ages and their families are invited to the El Cerrito Library on Saturday at 11 a.m. to listen to tales told by Walter Mayes, a.k.a. Walter the Giant Storyteller. Walter, who is 6 feet, 10 inches tall, has spent most of his adult life entertaining children and adults with stories, as well as with his message of the importance of books and the power of stories in our lives. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the El Cerrito Library. For details, call the library at 510-526-7512.

Children ages 3 and up and their families are invited to the El Cerrito Library for a series of four Monday evening family storytimes beginning Sept. 19 and continuing through Oct. 10. Each event will last about a half-hour and will include songs and fingerplay, as well as stories on a particular theme. The themes will be dog stories on Sept. 19, Dinosaurs! on Sept. 26; Bathtime on Oct. 3; and Mouse Tales on Oct. 10. For details, call the library at 510-526-7512.

The fall series of Lapsit storytimes (formerly known as Babytime and Toddlerime) at the El Cerrito Library will begin on Thursday and continue through Nov. 17. These storytimes, which meet on Thursdays at 10:15 a.m. and 11 a.m., are for babies and toddlers up to age 3 and their caregivers. Each meeting lasts about 20 minutes and includes songs, bounces, games and fingerplay in addition to the stories. No registration is required.

A session on strategy tips for the SAT College Entrance Exam by Princeton Review will be held Monday, Sept. 26 at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library. Registration is required. The session is free and open to all ages.

For details, call the Kensington Library at 510-524-3043.

The Albany Library will present poet Tobey Kaplan on Oct. 12 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Kaplan is a master poet-teacher through "California Poets in the Schools." She has given workshops and presentations throughout the country regarding creative process, poetry, literacy and social change.

The library will also present a drop-in poetry-writing workshop led by Linda Elkin on Oct. 12 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Elkin's poems have been published in The Bloomsbury Review, Green Mountains Review, Tar River, 5 a.m., and in other journals and anthologies, including Kindled Terraces: American Writers in Greece.

Both events are in the Edith Stone Room and are free. Cookies will be served. Questions? Call Ronnie Davis at 510-526-3720, ext. 5.

The newly formed Kensington Library Book Club will hold its first meeting on Monday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m. at the Kensington Library. It will discuss Ethan Canin's novel, "Carry Me Across the Water," about intergenerational family issues, nurturing relationships, war, love and simple domestic pleasures.

Subsequent meetings will be held on the fourth Monday of every month at the library at 7 p.m. The club is sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library. For details, call the Kensington Library at 510-524-3043.

—Craig Lazzarotti

Library activity items may be e-mailed to journal@cctimes.com.

Dog trainer realizes her longtime calling

By Jennifer Shaw

CORRESPONDENT

Sofie is learning the drill and knows her paces. Her owners are instructed to position themselves in different places in their yard. Each takes turns calling the 4-month-old Cockapoo, asking her to sit and rewarding her with a treat. This is reinforced by the sound of a handheld clicker and lots of praise.

With her characteristically short attention span, Sofie is justifiably distracted by the presence of 3-year-old Kaela Bronfeldt, before careening around the swimming pool to get her reward.

"She's clearly getting this game," says dog trainer Sasha Futran, clad in a black shirt, appointed with a pair of canine footprints and "paws off."

The Berkeley resident reminds her clients to work toward an incremental, random food reward method, ultimately substituting a treated toy or extended play. Carla and Ken Betts of Piedmont contacted Futran to address problems they were having with Sofie's housebreaking and her penchant for jumping on people. Futran noted other common concerns a client could have include leash-aggressive behavior, leash pulling and not coming when called.

"We've gone beyond trying to be the experts in all fields," said Carla Betts of their decision to hire a private behavioral modification consultant. Futran was certified at the Canine Consultant Academy in the Marin Humane Society.

But, for Futran, working full time with dogs has been a long-time calling that took a while to answer. Her career path had been in newspapers, radio and television, including a stint as the associate editor of Creative Loafing, an alternative newspaper in Atlanta, and hosting a daily talk show with a CBS affiliate, operated by the John Birch Society.

"They needed a female and a liberal," Futran said. "I was told I couldn't discuss politics, and that's when we parted company."

The longtime activist segued into public relations for certain causes and fund-raising for nonprofits groups.

"With my background, I certainly know how to market," she said.

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Albany Senior Center — Weekdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 848 Masonic Ave. Bridge, chess, needlepoint, world events, literature. Mercy from Bag today. 510-524-9122.

El Cerrito
El Cerrito Committee on Aging — Wednesday, 3 p.m. at El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Mooser Lane.



GREGORY URQUIAGA/STAFF

SASHA FUTRAN, left, helps Carla and Ken Betts work with their 4-month-old cockapoo Sofie on how to stop her jumping during a dog behavior consultation recently in Piedmont.

MORE INFO

Futran also teaches dog training and puppy socialization at Rabbit Ears, located at 303 Arlington Ave. in Kensington. A new session started Thursday. Call 510-525-6155 for more information or to register.

For more information on group lessons or scheduling a private consultation, call 510-849-9323 or visit Futran's Web site, www.companyofdogs.com.

trian, recalling the terrier that was left on her front lawn.

The "activist for dog's rights" lives close to the 20-year-old Ohlone Dog Park, the first fenced-in park for canines in the United States. She still lobbies to make sure it remains open.

When the Albany Waterfront was to be merged with the East Shore State Park, Futran was part of the grassroots group called Albany Let It Be, advocating that dogs be allowed to remain off leash.

"There are a zillion little paths. You never know what you're going to find around the corner," she said. "It was the best place in the world to walk dogs. Dogs are like explorers. But we fought the good fight, and we lost."

"She's absolutely determined. She'll go after things I don't even think are possible," said Berkeley resident Doris Richards, founder of the Ohlone Park, who served with Futran on its board of directors. "She doesn't let things get in her way."

So it's no surprise that Futran is not giving up. Recently, she's written articles and opinion pieces for Woof Times, a new East Bay newspaper dedicated to dogs.

And there have been some special canines along the way that have convinced her of their amazing intelligence and perceptibility.

"Dogs can learn up to 1,000 words and understand what you mean when you say those words,"

she said. "You hear stories of dogs knowing when someone is ill. ... We're different species for sure, but take a suitcase out and see how your dog acts."

Futran's thoughts turned to her beloved, funny-looking Don Amigo, a mix of terrier with 12 strands of fur on either side of his face, the "escape artist of a Husky," and the course fur of a shepherd.

"He was really a companion, and taught me how much more we could communicate. He had a very expressive face and a very different level of expressing," she said, noting that when Don Amigo was dying of cancer, she crouched down next to his bed. "I said 'Go ahead, go do it.' ... Those words allowed him to die."

"My mom once said, 'When I die I want to come back as one of your animals,'" she added. And some of Futran's education in dog training has been in her home. Enter Alfie, a mischievous, 80-pound Belgian Shepherd mix, who "thought it was a riot to stay out of reach," often refusing to come in the house during a rainstorm.

"If you chase after them, they make it a grand old game, so I learned to ignore him," she said, noting that is an effective strategy for other unwanted, attention-getting behavior.

Correspondent Jennifer Shaw can be reached at voice@cctimes.com.

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is known for its fresh and delicious meals, prepared on site and served in the spacious dining room.

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Neighborhoods

The Berkshire

Seniors and their families are invited to visit The Berkshire, an 80-unit community (including a separate secured Alzheimer's and dementia care program), currently the only assisted living facility of its type in Berkeley.

One of the many things that sets the community apart is its beautiful garden areas. Every ground-floor unit opens to one of several gardens, including one set aside for the memory care area, while all second-story units feature private balconies. The grounds also include a court of stately magnolia trees.

The Berkshire features a

large reception area/living room with European-style decor; a full dining room plus a separate, private area for small gatherings; library; activity rooms; and a country store operated by residents. Many activities are offered, such as exercise programs and scheduled outings.

Numerous members of the staff are longtime veterans, and residents at The Berkshire are a unique and lively group, including several former professors and others employed at the nearby University of California.

Located 2235 Sacramento Street, The Berkshire can be reached at (510) 841-4844.

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The reverse mortgage has become an important source of lifetime income for senior citizens who need additional monthly income, a lump sum, or both. Many misconceptions exist about reverse mortgages.

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Not true! When you no longer reside in the home, you will probably sell it. When the home is sold, the accrued loan balance will be repaid, and the remaining sale proceeds will be distributed to you or your heirs.

Your reverse mortgage loan consultant will be able to address any questions and concerns you may have about this financial product.

Mercy Retirement & Care Center Gives Back to the Community

The season of giving - is all year at Mercy. Knowing that thousands of seniors struggle to live on fixed incomes, Mercy Retirement & Care Center established the Mercy Brown Bag Program to assist fixed-income seniors ages 60+ that reside throughout Alameda County. The program, which was launched in 1982, brings together "seniors who help seniors" through a coordinated program that involves the distribution of high quality, nutritionally balanced bags of groceries that are available for the senior-in-need. The program depends on its volunteers who are often recipients themselves, and on donations which are received through individuals and organizations. "We are in constant need of donations to

help keep this long-standing and compassionate program alive," notes Joy Clinton, Director of the Mercy Brown Bag Program. "The community is encouraged to help us make a difference," she added. Donations include large quantities of non-perishable food, cash, large brown paper bags and rolls of produce bags. Groceries are distributed twice monthly to twelve distribution centers, reaching over 1,200 fixed income seniors throughout the county. Mercy Retirement & Care Center is a non-profit organization that has been providing quality compassionate care and services to older adults for more than 130 years. To be a Mercy Brown Bag Volunteer or to make a donation, call Joy Clinton at 510-534-8540, ext. 369.

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Located in the heart of Oakland, Grand Lake Gardens is nestled in a peaceful garden setting only steps away from urban life and beautiful Lake Merritt. There is an energy from this retirement community that will inspire you "To Go for Grand."

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Elder Care Alliance Communities

Elder Care Alliance is co-sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Regional Community of Burlington and the Sierra Pacific Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.



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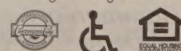
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EL CERRITO SCHOOL NOTES

El Cerrito High School

GAUCHO CORRAL: Do you have important information to share with the ECHS community about an issue, club, activity or resource? The Gauche Corral, a newsletter of the ECHS PTSA, can help. The Gauche Corral is mailed to parents of all students and local community members and is published three times a year. Its first issue will be out in early October. The deadline for submissions is Sept. 29. Send your information to editor Sheila Tarbet, tarbet@comcast.net, or call her at 510-525-3956. Please let her know you have something, even if it isn't ready, so the team can start planning.

PSAT: This year juniors and sophomores will take the practice SAT, or PSAT, exam on Wednesday, Oct. 12 at El Cerrito High. The West Contra Costa school district, in partnership with the College Board, is paying for all 10th-graders to take the exam. Juniors may register for the test by paying \$15 to the cashier in room 1. Juniors will receive study guides when they register. The registration deadline for juniors is Wednesday, Oct. 5. Only juniors are eligible for the National Merit Scholarship program, which is based on PSAT scores; sophomores should take the test again next year as juniors to participate in National Merit. The distribution of study guides to sophomores will be announced soon. Room assignments and exact test times will be announced several days before the exam.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Band parents are needed to volunteer Saturday for the concession stand at the Cal football game at 2 p.m. Volunteers need to arrive at 11:30 a.m. E-mail Janenine Haney-Ragsdale at rtorragsdale@aol.com or call 510-672-3281 or 510-243-1794 for further information or to volunteer.

MOUNTAIN BIKING CLUB: The ECHS Mountain Biking Club is starting its third year of riding in the Norcal High School Racing League. The club consists of about 15 boys and girls. The group has been coached by Jeremiah Holland (photo teacher), Michael Mejia and Lincoln Linsmith (community workers and cyclists) for the past three years. These three coaches, interested volunteers and parents guide these athletes through training and racing, January through May. If you are interested, watch for announcements for an all-comers meeting and major parent meeting (including pizza and salad) in October. For more information, visit www.echsmtb.com.

Portola Middle School

IMPORTANT DATES: Back to School Night is Thursday. All parents/guardians are asked to go to the gym at 6 p.m. Mr. Phan will speak and then parents/guardians will go to their child's classrooms. Mr. Phan is asking for student and adult volunteers to assist people in getting to the classrooms. If you would like to help, please call the school or stop by the office.

CSET: After taking part in training funded by the West Contra Costa school district, teacher Lisa Holmes recently passed the California Subject Examination for Teachers (CSET) in math and science.

Castro Elementary School

BOOK FAIR: A book fair will be held at Barnes and Noble Booksellers in El Cerrito Plaza on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. When you shop and present a voucher on this day, a portion of the proceeds will be contributed to the Castro Elementary Library Fund. The library was destroyed by fire in April. Vouchers are available at Castro Elementary, 7125 Donal Ave., El Cerrito or by calling Elise Thomas at 510-235-3849. You must have a voucher to participate.

Harding Elementary

SCRIP SALES: Purchase SCRIP every Thursday on the Kindergarten patio (Ashbury Street), 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. Coming soon: The order form with a complete list of merchants will be available at www.hardingpta.org/.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Parent volunteers are needed to help monitor the

play area before and after school. Please speak with Mrs. Taylor.

CORONADO FIRE: A donation account has been set up at The Mechanics Bank to help repair the damage at Coronado Elementary School from a fire on Aug. 1. Two kindergarten classrooms and a speech therapy room were destroyed. Checks may be made payable to: WCCUSD/Coronado Elementary School Donation Fund Account #139-624465. Donations may be sent to or dropped off at: The Mechanics Bank, 3171 Hilltop Mall Road, Richmond CA 94806.

El Cerrito Preschool Cooperative

OPEN HOUSE: El Cerrito Preschool Coop (EPCP) will hold an open house on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The school is accepting applications for summer and fall 2006. The facility includes two large play areas in the front and a backyard with a wildlife habitat garden. Parents who have children who will be 2½ by spring/summer 2006 are urged to come to the open house. The school is located at 7200 Moerser Lane at Ashbury. For more information, visit www.ecpc-kids.com.

Tehiyah Day School

UPCOMING EVENTS: Preschool Havdallah Celebration, Sunday, Nov. 6, 10-11:30 a.m.; kindergarten information evening, Wednesday, Nov. 9, 7-8:30 p.m.; middle school information evening, Thursday, Dec. 1, 7-8:30 p.m.

KENSINGTON SCHOOL NOTES

Kensington Hilltop Elementary

RIBBON CUTTING: Kensington Hilltop Elementary School will hold a ribbon-cutting ceremony and homecoming event on Saturday, Sept. 24, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in its multipurpose room to celebrate the construction of its new school. Alumni and former teachers are asked to e-mail HilltopPleuion05@aol.com.

GARDEN PARTY: The annual Garden Party on Nov. 5 features both a silent and live auction, music and dinner. This is the school's biggest fundraiser. If you have business or know of a business that would like to donate items or gift certificates to the Garden Party, contact Debbie Reed at 510-235-5249 or debgirlak@comcast.net or Barbara Wansick at 510-528-2407. People are asked to solicit donations of cabins, beach homes, hotels, time shares, houseboats, frequent flier miles, even loaner RVs. Ask relatives, neighbors or friends to donate. Donations are tax deductible. The deadline is Oct. 1 if people have donations, they can e-mail eliselusk@comcast.net or phone 510-528-8336.

TRAFFIC VOLUNTEERS: Volunteers are needed to help direct traffic in the morning and afternoon (adults only). Please contact the school office.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS: Come assist librarian Paul Haxo in re-establishing the school library. Needed are volunteers to help shelve more than 12,500 library books and media, parents to assist with class library visits, and parents willing to read to children during recesses and lunch times. If you are willing to volunteer on a drop-in basis or reserve dedicated time or want more information, e-mail Donna Ramsey at donnamrsey94530@yahoo.com or call 510-558-0242.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Saturday: Dad's Club school work party, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Tuesday: School Site Council meeting, 6:30 p.m.; Conference Room; Thursday: Garden Party meeting, 7:30 p.m., multipurpose room; Sept. 28: Picture Day; Oct. 5: PTA meeting, 7 p.m. in the MPR. This will be a parent training in the Second Step Conflict Resolution program.

—Craig Lazzaretti

School notes may be e-mailed to journal@ccctimes.com.

ALBANY SCHOOL NOTES

Albany High School

MILITARY FORMS: Military non-consent forms are available in both the main office and attendance office for those who did not receive them.

AQUATICS AIDES: AHS students are being sought to serve as Adapted Aquatics Aides, teaching beginning swim skills to students with disabilities at the Albany pool during sixth period on Fridays and seventh period on Mondays. Anyone interested should see Ms. Rodden in the main office.

COLLEGE VISITS: Upcoming on-campus college visits include UC San Diego, Tuesday, 1:30 p.m.; Willamette University, Friday, 11 a.m.; Mills College, Monday, Sept. 26, 10:40 a.m.; University of Redlands, Tuesday, Sept. 27, noon; Red College, Wednesday, Sept. 28, 3 p.m.; College of Wooster, Thursday, Sept. 29, 12:45 p.m.

PTA FORMS: All students in families that did not receive the PTA packet mailed to in late August need to pick up some important forms in the Attendance Office. These forms include a release of personal information form, a pesticide information form, a financial aid form for senior parents, and a non-consent form for the release of student information to military recruiters. This applies only to those who did not receive the mailing.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS: The library could use some adult volunteers to help out in the library each week at lunch time; Mondays from 12:30-1:15, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:45-1:30, and on Fridays, 11:50-12:35. If you have an hour or so to help out in the middle of the day, contact Rosalie Gonzales in the library at 510-558-2528 or rosognza@albany.k12.ca.us.

PTA TOPICS: According to the PTA survey, the top six topics that members want PTA meetings to address are understanding AHS academic and social culture, enrichment programs, drug and alcohol problems in school, overcrowding, the block schedule, and alternative pathways after high school. At the PTA meeting on Sept. 12, principal Ron Rosenbaum addressed overcrowding and the block schedule. The parent education committee and the PTA executive board will address the other topics in future meetings.

ATHLETIC BOOSTERS: The AHS Athletic Boosters are sponsoring the Princeton Review PSAT/SAT practice tests and review/strategy sessions. Practice testing is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 24, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Review sessions are scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday, Sept. 27 and 28, 7:30 p.m. (attend one session). The sessions are open to juniors and seniors and take place at AHS. Deadline for sign-ups is Wednesday, and the cost is \$25, payable to AHS Athletic Boosters.

TEACHER TREATS: Volunteers are needed to bring in teacher treats on Friday, Sept. 23. Treats can include "savory" items like sushi, quiche, pasta salads, "sweet" items like cookies, muffins, or "healthy" items like fresh fruit or vegetables, even salads! Bagels and cream cheese are popular, as are drinks like sparkling water or iced teas. PTA will provide cups, napkins and plates. Send your treats on disposable plates or mark your plate so it is identifiable at the end of the day for you to pick it up in the office. Bring treats, or send them with your child, to the office (between 7:30-9 a.m. or later if the item is for lunch) or to the second floor "staff room" toward the end of the second floor near the gym. To volunteer, contact Virginia McKone at mckone1@sbcglobal.net or 510-524-2423.

RECYCLING TEAM: The AHS recycling team would like to remind everyone to place all recycling material (paper, bottles, cans are commingled) into the blue and yellow bins. Please do not place trash into the recycling bins as that contaminates the recycled materials, which then cannot be recycled.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Scholarships are available for minorities. For more information see Mrs. Grogans or Ms. Burns in the counseling office.

PRINCIPAL'S COFFEE: The first principal's coffee for this school year is Friday, Sept. 30, 8 a.m. in the principal's conference room, main office. This is your opportunity to discuss issues or concerns with Principal Ron Rosenbaum and other AHS parents, and also to find out what's happening at AHS. You are welcome to submit your questions for Ron ahead of time at ronr@albany.k12.ca.us.

BACK TO SCHOOL: Back to School Night is Wednesday at 6 p.m.

COLLEGE HELP: The College and Career Center in the library seeks parents to help students locate and use college application/reference materials during their advisory periods, Wednesday and Friday from 9:20 a.m. to 10 a.m. Volunteers should contact Becca Burns at 510-558-2508 or becca.burns@albany.k12.ca.us.

FUTURE LEADERS: The Future Leaders Institute is an opportunity for students to realize their dreams while benefiting the community and earning school credit. This is an eight-month program with weekly or bimonthly meetings after school in which students will create and implement individual projects designed for maximum community impact. Applications are being accepted from sophomores, juniors or seniors and are available online at thefutureleadersinstitute.org.

CAREER DAY: Career Day is coming in November, and five to 10 parents are needed to solicit presenters from the database. A few more people are needed to help facilitate communication between the speakers and the school, and a few more to help coordinate on the actual day. If you can help, contact Peggy Schmidt at 510-237-1166.

SCRIP: Shopping at Safeway will earn money for Albany High School — if you are registered for e-scrip. Not sure if you're registered? Or want to register so AHS gets money from Safeway when you shop? Register at <http://secure.escrip.com/jsp/supplier/registration/step1.jsp> or contact scrip at scrip@comcast.net.

Albany Middle School

LIBRARY VOLUNTEER: The librarians could use an extra adult to help with shelving books (at lunchtime or not), or at the circulation desk. This can be either a once-a-week commitment or less. If you're interested, please e-mail babsy_lew@yahoo.com or call Barbara Lewit in the AMS Library at 510-558-3619.

SITE COUNCIL: School Site Council needs two new parent members. This elected position writes the school plan and directs approximately \$60,000 annually to supporting programs. It usually meets one Wednesday a month from 6-8 p.m. If you're interested, please call school secretary Jazz at 510-558-3615.

AUTOMATED DIALING: AMS has an automated dialing system that will alert you to upcoming events and keep you informed about absences and tardies. If you have a zipper system on your phone, consider programming the number, which is 510-558-3600, so you can receive the messages sent through the office.

KAISER PERFORMANCE: Kaiser Permanente will be presenting "Nightmare On Puberty Street" on Monday at all seventh and eighth graders. Information and permission notes have been sent home. If you do not want your child to participate, please fill out the form and return it to school with your child.

MAGAZINE DRIVE: Our yearly magazine drive will kick off on Monday, Sept. 26. Profits go directly to the stu-

dents and support many of their activities including the eighth grade promotion trip to Marine World on the last day of school.

WRITING GROUP: The AMS Writing Group meets every Friday for lunch in Ms. Skirvan's room (Room 210). All students and staff who like to write — or want to like to write — are invited.

COBRA CLARION: The Cobra Clarion goes home with your child every Wednesday and after September will be online via the e-tree. Let the office know if you would like a hard copy. To join the e-tree, send a blank e-mail from your e-mail address to: AlbanyMiddleSchool-subscribe@yahoo-groups.com.

HURRICANE RELIEF: Which class will reach the \$2,000 mark first in the campaign to help Hurricane Katrina families? Donations are accepted for sixth grade in room 114, Ms. Fryer, for seventh grade in room 211, Ms. Mullarkey, and for eighth grade in room 210, Ms. Skirvan. Watch the progress on the thermometers in the atrium.

KIDS COLLEGE: Kids College courses at AMS are filling up quickly, but space is still available in several classes, ranging from chess to cartooning to calligraphy and martial arts. Take your completed registration form to the AMS office (extra copies are available) as soon as possible, and remember the self-addressed, stamped envelope. Most classes begin the week of Sept. 19.

DRAMA CAMP: The DVDs have arrived from Mr. Gamba's drama camp. Bring your \$15 to AdS 9 and pick up either your DVD or VHS.

UPCOMING EVENTS: Sept. 20: First student council meeting, 7:30 a.m., library; Sept. 22: Back to School night, 7-8:40 p.m.; Sept. 26: Magazine kick-off assembly; Sept. 28: School Site Council, 6-8 p.m., library; Oct. 3: Principal's Coffee, 8 a.m.; Oct. 7: PTA meeting, 7 a.m., library

CHOIR MEETINGS: Choir meets at 8 a.m. in the music room. Sixth graders meet Tuesday and Thursday; seventh and eighth graders meet on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Ms. Jordan welcomes all interested students.

Cornell Elementary School

HURRICANE RELIEF: Cornell School is starting a Hurricane Katrina Relief Penny Drive. A container will be available in the office. All funds collected will be donated to the American Red Cross for victims of Hurricane Katrina. Also, students will write letters to children in the devastated area who are now homeless. These will be included in comfort packs, which a local group is preparing for refugee children.

LUNCHES: Please indicate your intent to purchase a lunch for your child by filling out an envelope on the counter and inserting the \$3 charge. The information will be processed by the food service office. Also, please put your child's name on his or her lunch box.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE: The school has a few non-supervision (11:45-12:45 daily) and para-educator (8:30-11:30) positions available. Training provided, no experience necessary. Contact the school office at 510-558-3700 or the district personnel office at 510-558-3757.

PTA FORMS: The PTA raises money that makes a difference at Cornell, funding parent resources, teacher supplies, and programs and events. A

membership form to home with your child. Bring ice cream after school on Wednesdays, a week 50 cents each.

Marin Elementary

PHONE SYSTEM: The term is almost in place. Meanwhile, you can call 510-558-4740 between 4:30 p.m. and you can

sages when possible.

READING SCHEDULE: Reading schedule for grades Sept. 19. Reading been sent home. Early at 8:30 a.m. and 9:40 a.m., although grades 1-5 start at 8:30 a.m.

DONATIONS: Marin Elementary is accepting donations of cash (made out to Cornell) for the Louisiana Relief. Corey Jones, 3000 wish list are from

DRIVING: If you are a drop-off or pick-up, please drop-off or pick-up away. Stoppage in the gal and driving on the ticket from the library.

MEDICINE: The school instruction/performance your child's physical medicine brought to the school. The medicine will be Write your name on many of them to be

PTA DUES: Every 4th tributed to the PTA. fits to your child. dues are \$25, or whatever ford. PTA volunteers on the office

UPCOMING EVENTS: meeting, 6:30 p.m., free child care (9:00-17:00) (developmental holiday); Oct. 10: Book Fair, Oct. 10-11 p.m.

Ocean View Elementary

AFTER-SCHOOL PLANS: that your child's plans after school. Plan to your child's teacher change in your child's not drop your child off before playground

at 6:15, and pick up promptly after school. meet your child or parent Jackson Street or park campus. Use common walks, avoid walking lots, and don't park in zones. The school office day at 4 p.m.

PTA VOLUNTEERS: The volunteers to support grams, and the first year is Monday. The raiser is the bulk of information has been sent to

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Calendar

to the Community Calen-
received Thursdays one
to publication. Listings are
available basic. Mail sub-
to Pam Middings, 1516 Oak
Ave., Alameda, CA 94501; e-mail them
at pam@communitycalendar.com or fax
510-748-1660. Call 510-748-
1660 if you have questions.

Coming Up

Environmental Science Activities — Sept. 16, Whole Foods
Market, 2000 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley.
Activities provided by the Kids for
the Planet program, which receives 5 percent of
profits for day. Bring your kids
to learn about the environment.
Details: www.kidsfortheplanet.org

Kids Dance — Sept. 17,
10 a.m.-1 p.m., Grace North
School, 2138 Cedar St., Berkeley.
Children's Dance Class, Family
Dance Class and Open
House. Most faculty, learn more
about dance education. Free.
Details: 510-844-3629 or www.luciano.com

High School Girls' Soccer —
Sept. 18, 2 p.m., Cougar Field,
Albany, Albany, Albany, Albany.
2005-06 season. Registration
\$10. Bring cleats, shin-guards,
socks, water. Snacks pro-
vided. \$35 advance, \$40 on
day. Registration, details: Karen
Hart, 510-844-3629 or <http://teamz.ac>

Film Sunday Series —
Sept. 18, 11 a.m., Morgan Center for the
Arts, 1600 College Ave., Berkeley.
Bring the kids for an ad-
vanced love in this ani-
mated Disney classic. Details:
morgancenter.org

Asheba at Ashkenaz — Sept. 18,
3-4:30 p.m., 1317 San Pablo Ave.,
Berkeley. Joyful Caribbean music.
Admission: \$4 children, \$6 adults.
Details: 510-525-5054 or [www.ashke-
naz.com](http://www.ashke-
naz.com)

PSAT/SAT Practice Test — and
Strategy/ Review Session, Sept. 24,
8:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Albany High
School, 603 Key Route Blvd., Albany.
Practice Tests, Sept. 27 & 28, 7:30-9
p.m., Reviews. Cost: \$25. Sign up in
AHS office.

Asheba at La Pena — Oct. 8,
10:30-11:15 a.m., La Pena Cultural
Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.
"Los Amiguitos" children's program
presents family fun with Asheba's
Caribbean-themed musical story-
telling. Tickets: \$3-\$4. Details:
www.lapena.org

Community

North Berkeley Senior Center —
Free events at 1901 Hearst Ave.,
Berkeley: Sept. 16, 1:15 p.m., Chi-
nese Mid Autumn Festival. — Sept.
19, 10 a.m., Parkinson's Support
Group exercise session. — Sept. 21,
1:30 p.m., tea & entertainment by
Toru Saito honors seniors over 90. —
Sept. 20, 27, 1-5 p.m., AARP offers
Fifty Five Alive Mature Driver classes.
Cost \$10, register at 510-981-5190.

— Sept. 28, 1 p.m., Lion's Blind Cen-
ter computer classes discussed. —
Sept. 29, 1 p.m., Drive Well Work-
shop. Details: 510-981-5190.

Nanotechnology Conference —
"2005 ASME Nano Conference,"
through Sept. 16, on UC Berkeley
campus. Manufacturing, devices &
systems, phenomena highlighted. De-
tails/registration: [www.asmeconfer-
ences.org/nano05](http://www.asmeconfer-
ences.org/nano05)

**St. John the Baptist Parish Festi-
val** — Sept. 17-18, 11150 San Pablo
Ave., El Cerrito. Sept. 17, 6 p.m., buf-

fet dinner with appetizers & desserts
served in school auditorium for \$30;
children 12 & under half-price. Sept.
18, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., festival features
kids' carnival games with prizes, in-
ternational food booths, live entertain-
ment, a country store, garden plants,
more. Details: 510-232-5659.

Three-Alarm Barbecue — Berke-
ley Fire Fighters Association benefit
for Berkeley Rep's scene shop, Sept.
17, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Berkeley
Rep's Roda Theatre, 2015 Addison
St. Following is optional 2 p.m. matinee
of "Our Town." Cost: \$25 adults,
\$15 kids, \$35 for discounted matinee
tickets; subscribers save \$5 on BBQ;
children under six eat free. Family
BBQ package (2 adults + 2 kids)
\$70. Tickets, details: 510-647-2949.

**Rail Stop ribbon cutting/Transit
Plaza Grand Opening** — Sept. 17, 1
p.m.-4 p.m., University Avenue & 3rd
Street, Berkeley. Berkeley Redevel-
opment Agency presents live music,
food, drinks, remarks by elected and
appointed officials, tours. Details:
Mart 510-981-7418 or
mkbrown@ci.berkeley.ca.us

Hopalong Animal Rescue —
Hosts pet adoption events: Sept. 17,
12-4 p.m., dogs at PetSmart, 1001
Eastshore Highway, Albany. — Sept.
18, 12-4 p.m., cats at PetSmart, 1001
Eastshore Highway, Albany. Details:
510-267-1915 or www.hopalong.org

Tibetan Nyingma Institute —
Sept. 17, 7-8:30 p.m., Sandy Olney
and others on "Pilgrimage to Tibet."
Free, reception with refreshments after
talk. — Sept. 18, 6 p.m., Robin Caton
on "Benefits of Meditation." — Sun-
days, 5-5:45 p.m., Free Chant and
Meditation, 1815 Highland Place,
Berkeley. — Sept. 25, 6 p.m., Jack
Petrunker on "Changing Your Life One
Step at a Time." Details: 510-843-6812
or www.nyingmainstitute.com

**Castro Elementary Library
Fundraiser** — Bookfair, Sept. 17, 9
a.m.-11 p.m., Barnes and Noble
Booksellers, 6060 El Cerrito Plaza, El
Cerrito. Shoppers present a voucher
at store; a portion of proceeds benefit
Castro Elementary Library Fund. Li-
brary was destroyed by fire on April
23. Vouchers available at Castro Ele-
mentary, 7125 Donal Ave., El Cerrito;
or call Elise 510-235-3849. Vouchers
needed to participate.

**Discounted Bay-Friendly Car
Wash** — Sept. 17, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.,
Kaady Car Wash, 400 San Pablo
Ave., Albany. Save money and partici-
pate in Coastal Cleanup Day by wash-
ing car at a professional car
wash. Keep soap, oil, grease, and
other pollutants out of bay by wash-
ing car at car wash instead of at
home. Details: www.savesbay.org or
510-452-9261 x130.

**Ecology Center's Berkeley
Farmer's Markets**: Tuesday's Market
2-7 p.m. at Derby Street & Martin
Luther King, Jr. Way. — North Shattuck
farmers market 3-7 p.m. Thursdays at
Shattuck Avenue & Rose Street. All or-
ganically grown produce featured. —
Saturday's market 10 a.m.-3 p.m. at
Civic Center Park, Center Street & Mar-
tin Luther King, Jr. Way. All are open
year 'round, rain or shine. Details: 510-

548-3333 or www.ecologycenter.org.
Coming up: Sept. 17, 11 a.m.-3 p.m.,
twenty bands compete in String Band
Contest, Crafts Fair. Free.

Hurricane Katrina Benefit Concert —
Sept. 17, 2 p.m. & 5:30 p.m., Jaz-
zschool, 2087 Addison St., Berkeley.
New Orleans-style jazz featuring pi-
anist Ray Skjelbred, cornetist Leon
Oakley, bassist and ragtime pianist
Marty Eggers, drummer Bill Maginnis,
trombonists Bob Mielke and Rick El-
more (aka Professor Gizmo),
Louisiana native saxophonist Jules
Broussard and legendary blues singer
Barbara Dane. Admission: \$10. Dona-
tions sent to "The Jazz Foundation of
America" www.jazzfoundation.org.

Berkeley Historical Society —
Walking Tours, 10 a.m., Veterans
Memorial Building, 1931 Center St.,
Berkeley. Fee: \$8-\$10. Sept. 17:
"Claremont-Elmwood Paths, Houses
and History." — Oct. 1: "The Berke-
ley View Terrace Neighborhood." De-
tails: 510-848-0181.

Cerrito Creek cleanup — Sept. 17,
10 a.m., meet at south end of
Yosemite Street, two blocks west of
San Pablo Avenue, El Cerrito. Friends
of Five Creeks' project for Coastal
Cleanup Day. Remove litter and in-
vasive weeds, take a short nature walk to
tidal reaches and former Indian sites,

and end with an optional bring-your-
own picnic on grass. Details: Susan
510-848-9358 or www.fivecreeks.org.

Day in Yiddishland — Sept. 18,
9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Berkeley Rich-
mond Jewish Community Center,
1414 Walnut St., Berkeley. Work-
shops in: Klezmer music for all levels
(bring instruments); Yiddish literature,
language, popular phrases, and hu-
mor; Eastern European Jewish his-
tory; sing-alongs and dancing; spe-
cial teen workshops; Youth program
for ages 5 and up. Fee: \$18-\$20; Kids
up to 17 free. Details: 415-789-7679.

**Sycamore Japanese Church
Bazaar** — Sept. 18, 12-5 p.m., 1111
Navellier St., El Cerrito. Japanese
food, handicrafts, plants, door prizes,
kids' games. Details: 510-525-0727.

Fibromyalgia Support Group —
Sept. 20, 12-2 p.m., Herrick Campus,
Alta Bates Summit Medical Center,
2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley. Topic
"Clinical Trials of Medications for Fi-
bromyalgia" presented by Barbara
Tufts, Recruitment Specialist and/or
Rita Ipsen, Director of Marketing and
Outreach, both of Diablo Clinical Re-
search in Walnut Creek. Free. Details:
Deborah 510-644-3273.


See CALENDAR, Page A10

MAC'S COMING EVENTS

| SEPTEMBER 20 | SEPTEMBER 26 | OCTOBER 10 | OCTOBER 18 | WEDNESDAY |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| Wine Tasting 5-7 pm Cuvée Reds Wineries | (All Week) Caviar & Stolichnaya Vodka Festivities | (All Week) Cuvée Reds & Cognac Festival | Wine Tasting 5-7 pm Cabernet Sauvignon 18 Wineries | Wednesday Selected Appetizers 50% OFF Sunday Lobster or Prime Rib Special |

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Theater

FROM PAGE A1

The renovations would transform what is now an empty shell at Central and San Pablo avenues into a two-screen movie house with an adjacent cafe. Kyle and Catherine Fischer — who call themselves Speakeasy Theaters for business purposes — would operate the theater similarly to their successful Parkway Theater near Lake Merritt in Oakland.

It would seat 170 people downstairs and 138 people upstairs, according to current plans.

"The model, which is particularly suitable for small niche theaters, includes showing classics, previously released films, and other art-house films," according to a report about the lease agreement between the Redevelopment Agency operator and Speakeasy Theaters. "The theater has lounge seating rather than fixed seats, and high-quality food and beverages are served during the performances. Film programming is flexible to accommodate community and other special events."

The project will also give the city a cache and destination it now lacks, said Dave Weinstein, a member of the Friends steering committee.

The Friends have raised \$40,000 in cash and \$86,000 in "in-kind" donations from more than 200 residents and a number of businesses and other organizations.

"I still think the value of the theater is such that it's worth proceeding," said Weinstein, a freelance writer. "It'll become a landmark for the town; what people will think of when they think of El Cerrito. El Cerrito needs something special, and this thing is special."

The theater is distinguished by its art deco artistic elements, said Weinstein, much of which has remained intact since it operated from 1937 to 1966.

The artistic features include a silver-leafed mural, art deco sconces, chandeliers and more. The city has placed some of the historic features into storage while some remain intact, including a frosted-etched mirror in the lobby and murals above the stage, both portraying dancing maidens.

Harry Keifer used the empty building as a warehouse for his furniture store from 1966 until 2001, when he sold it to Farah



MITCH OSHINSKY, community development director for El Cerrito, looks at the stage of the old Cerrito Theater on Wednesday. The El Cerrito Redevelopment Agency will likely be asked to allocate an additional \$1 million for renovation at the Cerrito Theater.

Pakzad. Pakzad had planned to renovate the theater along with adjacent spaces for upscale retail uses.

In 2002, the Redevelopment Agency stepped in and purchased the building for \$555,000, following a ground swell of support for renovating the theater into its original glory.

In the spring of 2003, the agency estimated that renovations would cost \$3.14 million. It agreed to loan the Fischers \$2.7 million for renovations provided they pay the agency \$10,000 a month for 25 years.

The agency expected the balance to come from fund-raising and grants.

The Fischers did not return two phone calls seeking comment. In July, construction bids for renovations came in higher than expected, though Catherine Fischer had refused to say what they were.

Former City Councilwoman Gina Brusatori supported the initial loan but balked when the agency was asked to pour an additional \$1.3 million into the project in early 2004, bringing the total cost of renovations, including the loan, to \$3.8 million.

Recently, she said the money could be better spent on a new library or senior center.

"This is taxpayer money, this is not play money. ...," Brusatori said.

"We have a very long list of community-supported infrastructure we could be spending it on."

Agency board member and Mayor Sandi Potter said she was inclined to continue supporting the project but said she would look carefully at the costs.

"I think it has a lot of community support," Potter said. "I know there are some concerns about certain aspects of it. But I haven't heard that people are opposed to bringing a newly renovated historic building back to our commercial corridor."

Some may debate whether the project is actually "historic." Pryde said the theater is little more than the Quonset hut it resembles from the outside.

He also complained about the lack of parking. The project offers just six of the 116 off-street spaces the city's building code requires.

The El Cerrito Planning Commission approved a permit for the project in October 2003, based on its benefit to the community. City officials say most residents will come at night and either park at adjacent parking lots or travel by BART.

Agency member Bill Jones said it remains to be seen what the agency will do on Monday, which the Friends on its Web site is calling a "critical" meeting for the project.

Lunch

FROM PAGE A1

The nutrition alarm bells sounded in Albany two years ago. The 3,500-student district had moved to a centralized kitchen, prepping all meals at the newly built Albany High School.

Faced with the logistics of shipping make-ahead meals to five campuses, the district turned to foods that could be defrosted and reheated, like tater tots, curly fries and hot dogs.

Though staples at many districts, the fatty selection peeved the parents in Albany, which lies a stone's throw from the birthplace of the organic foods movement spawned by chef Alice Waters.

"Lots of people were concerned that the lunches were not nutritious," said Linda McPherson, a mother of three students.

Soon after, an irate gaggle of Cornell students stormed a school board meeting with a petition and demanded to know what had become of their home-cooked spaghetti. Their parents decried the burgerification of their children's diet. They found sympathy in board member Walden, also dismayed by the preponderance of nuggets and pizza carrying trans fats and white flour.

"I'm not a food nazi. I don't think many people are," Walden said. "But when the whole menu is like that, that is not OK."

In response, the district set up a food service committee of par-

Like Potter, he said he will look at the numbers closely, but he also emphasized that he didn't want the agency to be hit up for additional money in the future.

"I think the last thing anybody wants to do," said Jones, "is to move forward on this project and have to come back and ask for more money."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@ctimes.

Commission favors changes to events ordinance

By Alan Lopez
STAFF WRITER

By a 4-2 vote, the Contra Costa County Planning Commission has recommended a modified version of the events ordinance that would allow Kensington resident Danny Scher to hold up to three nonprofit events a year at his backyard amphitheater.

The commission recommended that the ordinance allow nonprofit events but not commercial events, and authorize the county to recover its costs for monitoring the event to make sure it complies with the permit's terms and conditions.

The commission revisited the temporary events ordinance

Tuesday after the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors approved the ordinance pending modifications at its Aug. 9 meeting. By state law, the Planning Commission is required to make a new recommendation if the board makes changes not previously seen by the commission.

At its Aug. 9 meeting, the board requested changes that included: requiring seven days between any two events; and requiring one permit per event. The ordinance had previously allowed one permit for up to three events.

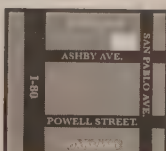
Residents have protested the periodic concerts Scher holds at his home on Coventry Road. The county, meanwhile, fined him

\$800 for three months.

The temporary ordinance will affect all incorporated Contra Costa County cities. It would allow anyone to hold up to three events a year at their home. The board will vote on the ordinance again on Oct. 4, said Kathy deputy clerk of the board office. The board will hold a public hearing at 1:30 p.m. on Oct. 4, said Kathy. For more information, call 925-947-1900.



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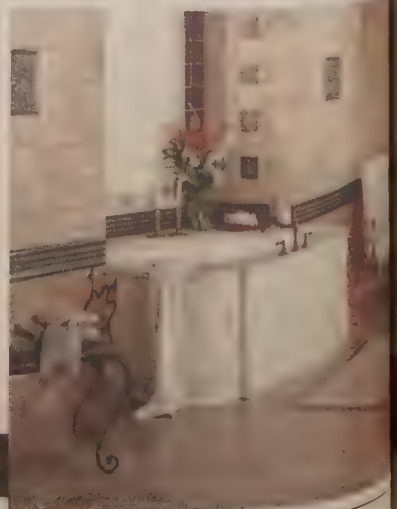
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Real Estate

HOUSES • RENTALS • COMMERCIAL • MORTGAGES

October 16, 2005

Advertising supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Morningstar, The Information

First impressions play big role in real estate sale

Should you put a vacant home on the market?

INMAN NEWS

One of the first things you should do if you're thinking about putting a vacant home on the market is to walk through your home with a critical eye. Examine it with a critical eye. Examine it with a critical eye. Examine it with a critical eye.

Don't be surprised if you're overwhelmed by what you see. The home may be faded and frayed with years of sun exposure. If you have children or pets, the interior and baseboards may be stained and need paint.

Your furniture might be outdated and the floors might look worn. It's important that the place needs a little work that you ought to just do it, slap on a fresh coat of paint, redo the floors and sell the home.

Painting and floor refurbishing are good ideas. Renewing the interior of your home when it's one of the most cost-effective improvements you can make will increase your net proceeds. Buyers will pay more for homes that are in move-in condition.

However, selling a vacant home can result in a lower net return. The reason for this is that first impressions play a big part in sellings. When buyers walk into a home that looks bright, inviting and comfortable, they feel good. Most buyers walk into a vacant home, they feel that something is missing.

HOME SELLER TIP: Many people have a hard time imagining what a vacant home will look like when it's furnished. For these buyers, a vacant house poses a problem. They walk into an empty living room and start worrying about how they'd furnish it. It can be a threatening experience.

Home buying is stressful enough without having to worry about how the floor plan works and which room is used for what. A strategically furnished house creates a more pleasurable viewing experience and reduces the stress of buying.

Granted some buyers, such as architects and designers, have the ability to conceptualize in three-dimension. Some experienced buyers have moved so many times that they've developed the knack of visualizing their furniture in an empty space. But, you are likely to sell your home for more money if you can appeal to the entire pool of prospective buyers, not just those who have a particular expertise.

You can certainly sell your home vacant. Virtually everything sells at a price. The question is how much more could you sell your home for if it was attractively furnished?

A listing in the Oakland hills was put on the market last fall. It had a great view, but was vacant. It did not sell after three months on the market during a time when all well-priced listings in the area were selling. The listing was temporarily withdrawn from the market and staged with



DIAN HYMER
Home Hunting

rental furniture and accessories. It was put back on the market at the same price and sold right away.

The cost of staging your home for sale may seem prohibitive, but it needn't be. Many sellers who stage their homes for sale use their own furniture after removing outdated pieces and rearranging the rest.

Tattered draperies can be removed and often don't need to be replaced, unless they cover an unsightly or distracting outlook. For selling purposes, it's important to let in as much light as possible.

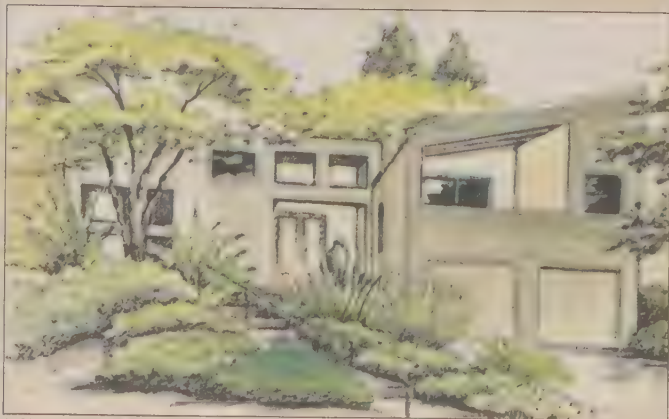
It's a good idea to consult with a decorator who specializes in staging homes for sale. A stager can arrange to bring in furniture if you decide that's what you need. To keep costs down, you may be able to create an inviting ambience without furnishing your entire house or condo.

THE CLOSING: The living and dining room, kitchen, family room and master bedroom are the most important places to concentrate your staging efforts.

Dian Hymer can be reached at 510-339-4777 or by e-mail at Dian@Dianhymer.com.

Real Estate Spotlight:

Dramatic contemporary on Berkeley hills cul-de-sac



LIGHT STREAMS THROUGH THIS DRAMATIC CONTEMPORARY at 5 Woodmont Court, Berkeley. Built around a courtyard and surrounded by lovely patios and gardens, the architectural design and skillful siting of this house combine to provide privacy and harmony of indoor and outdoor space. A mature Japanese maple figures prominently in the front garden, where a wide outdoor staircase leads to a pair of richly carved entry doors. Soaring ceilings and skylights add space and drama to this four-bedroom, two-and-one-half-bath home. The kitchen-family room combination opens to the interior courtyard. The living room has a separate deck and features a fireplace with a raised hearth flanked by built-in seating. Nearby, the dining room opens to its own quiet patio for outdoor dining. The master suite enjoys access to the courtyard and to a lush garden with a hot tub. Refinished floors glow with honey tones and freshly painted walls radiate a palette of soft colors. There is also a study, an oversized two-car garage, lots of storage and substantial seismic improvements. On a quiet cul-de-sac minutes from Tilden Park, bus service and UC Berkeley, this is a comforting retreat for all seasons.

Price: \$995,000. Open Sunday, Sept. 18 and 25, 2 - 5 p.m.

Listing agent: Cella Concus, Marvin Gardens, Kensington, 510-224-0800.

MONTCLAIR

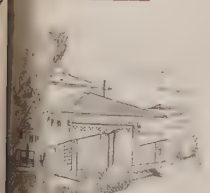


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OAKLAND \$1,295,000

1110 CROCKETT PLACE
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HILL \$859,000

1000 8TH AVENUE
A fourplex. Spacious units with lots of charm. Lush garden deck in rear. Formal dining room, laundry rms in unit, has 4 attached garages. Call Harding 339.4000-899.6307

OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$799,000

3081 GUIDO STREET
1st time on market in 50 years! Light-filled mid-century 3/2 with great expansion potential. Hill and Mormon Temple views. Quite special! Earle Shenk 339.4000-220.6407



OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
OAKMORE \$799,000

1906 HOOVER AVENUE
Stunning English style home with magical gardens. Tastefully updated throughout with hardwood floors and leaded glass windows. See the photo tour at: PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400-482.9000

OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
OAKLAND \$739,000

3660 CALAFIA AVENUE
Traditional home in Oak Knoll neighborhood. 3+ Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths. Office/Au Pair with separate entry. HWF's, newer appliances, large yard with patio & play area. Ken Nwokedi 339.4000-485.5110



OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
GOLF LINKS \$688,000

78 ELYSIAN FIELDS DRIVE
Gorgeous California Contemporary with hardwood floors, formal living room, spacious kitchen, family room and in move in condition. Yard perfect for BBQ & play! Nahid Nassiri 339.8400-339.4550

OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
GLENVIEW \$659,000

4042 CANON AVENUE
Classic 3-bedroom, 1.5 bath home in Glenview in park like setting, sunny rooms, updated kitchen, bath, garage, private yard, walk to schools, park and shops. Arnold Mueller 339.4000



OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
OAKMORE AREA \$649,000

4054 FOREST HILL AVENUE
New listing! Delightful cottage with deep lot filled with fruit trees. Updated kitchen and bath plus in-law with sep. entrance. Rosie Nysaether 339.8400-339.4567

OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
LAUREL (LOWER) \$595,000

2411 HUMBOLDT AVENUE
Great for co-housing or mini-farm. 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths + cottage on magnificent, 300' deep level creekside lot. Zoned for 8 units! Jim Schubert 339.4000-510.4022



OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
LAUREL (UPPER) \$599,000

5134 DAISY STREET
Spotless, updated mid-century home with great light, new kitchen & bath and gleaming hardwood floors. See photos at: PatriciaBennett.com 339.8400-482.9000

OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
TOLER HEIGHTS \$450,000

9950 LONGFELLOW AVENUE
Nice craftsman bungalow with some nice touches. Gleaming hardwood floors, freshly painted interior, brand new cabinets, granite countertops, new tile floors, remodeled bathroom. Wilbert Ross 339.8400-967.9120

OPEN SUN 2-4:30P.M.
OAKLAND \$425,000

1504 50TH AVENUE
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RICHMOND \$419,000

3023 HUMPHREY AVENUE
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OAKLAND \$850,000

2403-2411 IVY DRIVE
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OAKLAND \$755,000

546 30TH STREET
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2 Retail spaces for lease. 2555 Broadway 3480 sq ft, \$3480/month. 2545 Broadway 7500 sq ft, \$8000/month. Zoning c-40. Excellent Broadway auto row location! Ken Nwokedi 510.899.6333

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Getting plugged in: Anet goes electric

A return to Number 416 in a series of true experiences in real estate

Anet is learning electricity, not big electricity, but little stuff that she can do herself, and she is very excited.

For Christmas she asked for one of those gadgets that tell whether a wire is live. You stick it into an outlet and it beeps if electricity is running there. As Anet is very scared of electricity and really doesn't want to be shocked or killed by it, finding out what's live and what isn't is a most important first step.

You just can't imagine how delighted she was when she opened the present on Christmas Eve and realized that she could test electric wires. I think she actually shouted something like "Oh boy, oh boy" before jumping up and hurrying over to the closest outlet to try it out.

"Beep beep beep" it went because, of course, there was electricity there, and Anet smiled largely. She beeped her way through several rooms.

Not many days passed before our good friend Shaun arrived to give Anet her first electricity lesson. Sitting together at the kitchen table, Anet told Shaun that she wanted to learn to change out light switches, wall outlets and light fixtures.

Shaun assured her that absolutely, all of these were well within her capabilities and, as Anet took notes, he described what she would find when she removed existing switches, outlets and fixtures.

Diagrams were drawn and then, using a new wall outlet, Shaun provided a hands-on demonstration of its parts.

I was listening with only half an ear but I know there was talk of 2 wires and 3 wires, neutral and hot, black and white and red, and grounds. Anet asked many questions such as "What if I open it and the wires are not colored?"

They discussed three-way switches and the possible reasons why turning on a switch at one end of a hallway doesn't work if the switch at the other end is turned off.

After only about an hour of intensive discourse, Shaun left, and Anet, very cheery, announced that she was ready to begin her electrical work. But first she needed to buy supplies, so we went to Home Depot. With rapt attention, Anet moved along the electrical material aisles gathering things she'd need.

Having decided to first install a GFCI outlet in the bathroom (the type that clicks off if there is water present), she bought one of those, also a few dimmer switches (both single and double, I think) and a couple of regular ones, and two new convenience outlets.

Back at home, she got her tools together: headband flashlight (another Christmas gift she requested a couple of years ago for which she has found many uses), screwdriver, pliers, and the testing gadget. At the electrical panel she read all the tiny labels trying to figure out which circuit the bathroom outlet was on, found one, switched it, then confirmed that it was truly off.

She removed the old outlet, peered at the wires (she called me to come and see how old the wires looked), wired the new one in place, and turned the juice back on.

Triumph, it worked! But there was a problem. The new GFCI was just a smidgeon larger than the old outlet and would not fit back into the recess in the ceramic tile.

By great good fortune, our fireplace man was at the house at that moment cleaning the chimney, and when he heard what the problem was, he offered Anet the use of a metal rasp, just the thing to shave off the edges of the tile. "Ah, an excuse to buy a new tool," I told Anet. "You really must have a rasp of your own."

And so Anet's first electrical installation was complete, and she was pleased, and she moved onto her next adventure, that pesky two-switch hallway problem. Shaun had told her that the difficulty might lie in the dimmer, that the wrong type had probably been installed.

Again she was careful to make sure that there was no current flowing before she took apart the switch, examined and replaced it, but this time, her ministrations failed. Apparently something else was wrong, something that Anet and Shaun had not covered in that first lesson. She would need further instruction and, perhaps, Shaun at her side. She'd already encountered another situation that Shaun hadn't thought to describe to her (something to do with tag wires she said), and so she was anxious to get more info.

Before another lesson could be arranged, we were back at Home Depot for something else, and I took the opportunity to look over

the selection of books they've got on electricity.

Knowing nothing at all about the subject, I chose one with what I thought were the best photos and instructions in plainest English, and told Anet she should have it.

We charged the book to our company account, a business expense because Anet will be applying her electrical skills soon, we hope, at our listings.

Light fixtures tend to conk out at the most inconvenient times like just before we're holding a house open.

How marvelous it will be. No more having to locate someone to come fix it, come quick.



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Pat Talbert and Anet Tarpoiff are residential real estate agents who can be reached at 510-653-2050 or at www.tarpoiffandtbert.com.

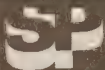
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OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This spacious Crestmont home is desirably located on a quiet street, with houses on only one side, which ends in a cul-de-sac. Three bedrooms plus bonus room, two full baths. Spacious living room overlooking sweeping Bay views. Large family room with fireplace. Hardwood floors on main level. Front lawn and private back yard. Offered at \$749,000

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Richmond View Pristine home In-Law Potential \$679,000

473 Mount St. Open Sun 1-4.
3 BR 2 BA over 2000 sq. ft., Gourmet kitchen w/granite counters, stainless appliances, gorgeous hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces, stylish bathrooms, 2 living rooms, 2 car detached garage, tiled patio for easy maintenance. #40108877.

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Richmond View Spectacular Bay Views near Wildcat Canyon

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WALNUT CREEK \$929,000



Sensational Remodel
3bd/2ba home with soaring ceilings, hardwood floors and home office. Located on a quiet cul-de-sac in a lovely area on 0.35+/-ac of lush lawns.

OAKLAND \$635,000



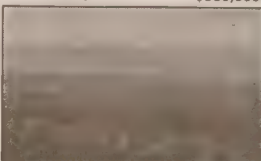
Rockridge Gem
Fantastic property with many upgrades and amenities. 2bd/1ba, FP, hardwood floors. Landscaped front and back yard. Close to BART and Market Hall.

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OAKLAND \$985,000



Spectacular Claremont Hills Townhome
This spacious and luxurious 3bd/2.5ba townhome in the Oakland/Berkeley Hills offers fabulous views, granite gourmet kitchen/FR combo, 3-car garage, MBD.

OAKLAND \$848,888



Spectacular Hiller Townhome
Beautiful 3bd/2.5ba townhome with breathtaking South Bay views, new paint, appliances, hardwood floors, and carpet. Won't last long.

OAKLAND \$549,000



Split-level Spanish-Mediterranean
Elegant 2bd home with hardwood floors, wood-burning fireplace, formal dining, family room and eat-in kitchen. Located in desirable Maxwell Park.

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Real Estate Focus:

1933 Piedmont masterpiece

ELEGANTLY SET BACK FROM THE STREET, protected behind a wrought iron fence and majestic, ancient trees, 50 Bellevue Ave. in Piedmont is a turn-of-the-century estate residence with a distinctive classical flair. This home is an architectural masterpiece designed to transcend time.

Its lines, stately grandeur and exquisite finishes serve as a firm foundation for the grand spaces and beautiful period detail that fill this three-story residence. A winding staircase adorns the formal entrance foyer and serves as a perfect link between timeless elegance and gracious interiors.

Bedrooms including two bedrooms, four and one half bath, library, an upper level at-home office, formal living room and dining room and a superbly equipped gourmet kitchen are some of the highlights of the home's generous and spacious floor plan.

A delightful private courtyard visible from almost all rooms in the house is the interior of the home with cascading natural light and introduces inviting outdoor spaces beneath a glorious colonnade embraced by verdant, climbing foliage.

Completing the overall appeal of this enchanting residence are manicured grounds and the added convenience of a lower-level game room, wine cellar, storage rooms, separate tradesmen's entrance and two-car side-by-side garage.

Price: \$4,989,000.

Selling agent: Anlian Tunney, The Grubb Co., 510-339-0400.

See a photo tour at

This week's Open Home Guide can be found on B26.



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Offered at \$925,000

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Romantic Rendezvous in Berkeley

All the romance and charm of the 1930's is captured in this beautiful 4 bedroom 2 bath Berkeley Hills home. Enter under the dramatic "porte-cochere" to find a spacious and gracious living room and dining room with original gumwood trim and built-in china cabinets, gleaming hardwood floors, large and newer eat-in kitchen and newer baths, and an upstairs study with a peek of the Bay. Relax under the stars and swaying palm trees in the lovely landscaped backyard featuring an in-ground pool decorated with Spanish tile. This special home is close to the Gourmet Ghetto, Solano Avenue, and the Berkeley Rose garden.

1109 Spruce Street
Offered at \$885,000

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Properties

THE REVIVAL OF MINI'S PLACE

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Open Sunday, 2-4:30

It's what used to be called "Mini's Place." The corner of Parker and McGee—where Mini used to do up all the neighborhood ladies' hair. Now restored to its former beauty, this charming 20's home—with 2+ bedrooms, complete with Craftsman built-ins and all the details, a gourmet kitchen, a wonderful garden—is ready for her debut.

Offered at \$549,000

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Open Saturday and Sunday

I by mature owner, on a 7,600 sq. ft. lot in the desirable Adams Point District, this 1915 home is a legally converted duplex with over 2,900 square feet on two levels.

The front unit, perfect for the owner, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, plus living room with fireplace, kitchen, sunroom and balcony.

The lower unit, currently vacant, features one bedroom, one bath, living room, kitchen and a versatile room suitable for an at-home office.

Within walking distance to Lake Merritt, shopping corridor and BART, offers convenient access to the city in just minutes from San Francisco.

Offered at \$785,000

Open Saturday September 17th, 11 am - 1 pm
Sunday September 18th, 2pm - 4:30 pm

I can help you learn the true market value of your property
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Take advantage of my contacts with leading lenders

Richard Matus
Your East Bay Specialist
510-506-8896
www.BestEastBayProperties.com

House hunting this weekend? Don't miss the Open Home Guide starting on B26.

sold
sold

RECENTLY SOLD. Gorgeous remodeled Montclair farmhouse in a Tahoe-like setting.

Originally offered at \$795,000
Represented the buyer in multiple offers



7121 Pinehaven Road
Oakland

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

MICHELLE WINCHESTER
Office: 510.339.0400/203
winchester@grubbco.com



Open Sunday, September 18th, 2:00-4:30

If Yale and Stanford just won't do...
This home on Vassar has a view of sea and sky...it's quite amazing!
A garden where perhaps you'll find...
And perfect space for artists!

3BD, 1.5BA Listed at \$619,000

Prudential
California Realty

Jackie Care
510-835-6026
www.prurealty.com/jackiecare

Magnificent Rockridge Duplex



327-329 62nd Street, Oakland
Offered at \$949,000

OPEN SUNDAY
Sept. 18th 1-4 PM

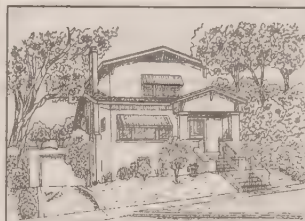
Elegant turn of the century duplex on beautiful tree lined street in the heart of Rockridge. Upper unit with three bedrooms, one bath, formal dining room, deck. Lower unit, two bedrooms, one bath, formal dining room, fireplace, patio. Both units immaculate, with gorgeous period details, built-ins, hardwood floors, fresh paint inside and out. Half a block off College Avenue, close to shops, restaurants and BART. Call Roy Grigsby for further details

Roy Grigsby
510.845.0211 Office
510.273.9756 Voicemail
Roy.Grigsby@Prurealty.com



Prudential
California Realty

NEW LISTING



3333 Kempton Ave., Oakland
Asking \$449,000

Open House
September 18th & September 19th
2-4:30

Craftsman fixer upper is now available! a great area! Large two story home with 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, spacious living room and formal dining room with built-in kitchen, and large terraced yard.

Prudential
California Realty

Chris Hansen
(510) 497-3400



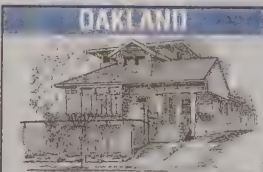
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California Realty

FEATURED HOMES



OAKLAND
Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,898,000
5747 Buena Vista, Oakland. Lovely, spacious. 5+BR/3.5BA traditional w/ideal floor plan.

Heidi Marchesotti (510) 339-9290



OAKLAND
Sunday 2-5 \$799,000
6130 Colby, Oakland. Prime Rockridge craftsman. 3BR/2BA, yard, near BART.

Vickie & Aleso (510) 428-0900



OAKLAND
Sunday 2-4:30 \$799,000
2747 Mountain Gate, Oakland. Light-filled 3BR/2BA beautifully preserved 50's modern.

Janet Flint (510) 339-9290



EL CERRITO
Sunday 1-4 \$629,000
6602 Stockton, El Cerrito. Like new 3BR/2BA, deck, hwd., fireplace, chef's kitchen.

Lillie Braudry (510) 868-1482



OAKLAND
Sunday 2-5 \$250,000
555 10th St., #116, Oakland. Just Listed. Garden condo near BART, gym+...

Adrianne Nash (510) 467-1467

PIEDMONT

Sunday 2-5 \$1,695,000
850 Highland, 4BR/3BA Medit. w/orig. arch. details. Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-4:30 \$839,000
168 Willowood. Clean 3BR/2BA Mediterranean, some updates, great location. Howard Converse (510) 339-9290

OAKLAND

Sunday 2-4:30 \$899,000
4445 Evans Ave. 4+BR/2+BA in Glenview w/bsmt + huge MBR w/FP. Sandy W. (510) 834-2010

Sat & Sun 2-5 \$799,000
7025 Pinehaven Road. The ultimate upscale 3BR/2+BA tree house. www.LaurelStrand.com (510) 339-9290

New Condo Nr Lake \$599,000
3BR/2BA loft-style. Poss comm use. Quality const. Great loc. nr lake. Cynthia Zhang (510) 376-3700

Sunday 2-4 \$537,000
9241 Thermal. Charming garden compound with 2+BR house and 2 BR cottage, decks and gardens galore. Barbara Reynolds (510) 868-1487

Sunday 2-4:30 \$449,000
3333 Kempton. Great 3BR/1.5BA Craftsman fixer near Piedmont Ave. 1st Open! Chris Hansen (510) 339-9290

Sunday 1-4 \$429,000
1202 32nd St. 2BR/1.5BA award winning David Baker loft. Open 9/18. Deb Graceffa (510) 845-0211

Sunday 2-4:30 \$425,000
5890 Vallejo. Mod designer cottage grt condo alt. Nr Emeryville. Wendy Kashiwa (510) 868-1400

Contractor Special \$360,000
3BR/1BA fixer sold as is Lot 3780. Ad #0171 LaVern Washington (510) 333-9138

OAKLAND

Sunday 2-4 \$330,000
8717 Mountain Blvd. 1BR/1BA twinhme, bamboo flrs, 855 sq ft, end-unit. William T. Booker (510) 684-1110

Sunday 1-4 \$305,000
288 Whitmore #121. 1BR/1BA condo 1st floor unit, pool, spa, patio. (510) 527-9800

Sunday 2-4 \$299,000
455 Crescent #310. 1BR/1BA complete remodel near Lake Merritt. Desiray R. McFall (510) 337-8670

BERKELEY

Sunday 2-4:30 \$1,725,000
1395 Grizzly Pk. 4+BR/2.5BA custom. Indoor pool. Pano views. Henriette Lanier-Green (510) 834-2010

Sunday 2-5 \$849,000
1403 Arch. Platinum duplex or 4BR/2BA house. Close to coffee! Candice (510) 868-1481

Sunday 2-4:30 \$549,000
1650 Parker. Restored to its former beauty, this 2+BR/1+BA Craftsman with all details and garden. Barbara Reynolds (510) 868-1487

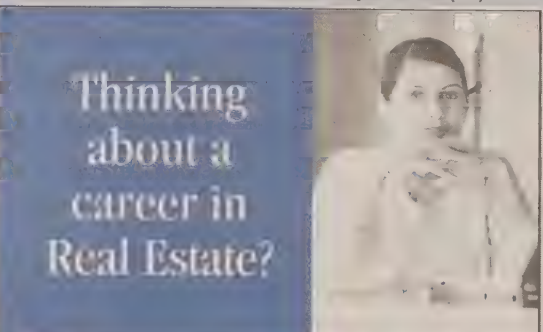
Sunday 2-4:30 \$495,000
1312 Poe (at Bonar). 2BR/1BA secluded cottage with lovely garden. Warwick (510) 868-1400

SAN LEANDRO

Sunday 1-5 \$539,000
161 Georgia Wy. San Leandro. Delightful 3BR/1BA in Brimmar, hwd., frpic, lg. yard. Rita Harrington (510) 845-0211

SAN LORENZO

Sunday 1-4 \$585,000
16747 Meekland Ave., San Lorenzo. 3BR/2BA. Good location. Must see. Michael Wong (510) 527-9800



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Try our Real Estate Simulator and find out what it's like!
Go to www.prurealty.com/careers/hills

ALBANY

Sunday 2-5 \$815,000
913 Evelyn Ave. Beautiful med. Close to Solano Ave MBR suite. 2BR/2BA lg yard, fam rm. Kathleen Crandall (510) 684-5289

ALAMEDA

Sunday 1-5 \$769,000
8 Kildeer Ct. Gorgeous 5 yrs old SFR 4BR/2.5BA. Sam & Vivian (510) 834-2010

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sunday 1-4 \$779,000
42 Prentiss Pl. San Ramon. Paradise living 4BR/2BA. Kitchen opens to lawn w/pool. Kathy Dittmer (510) 428-0900

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

Sunday 2-4 \$700,000
2873 Oxford Ave., Richmond. Large 4BR/2.5BA Fam rm, hardwood floors, 2 fireplaces. Kathy Dittmer (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-4:30 \$615,000
318 Vassar, Kensington. 3BR/1.5BA. Garden studio, hwd., view, charm, frpic. Jackie Care (510) 834-2010

Rossmoor, Walnut Creek \$550,000
2BR/2BA + Den or office, fresh paint, new carpet. Lovely. Peggy Kidd (510) 834-2010

Sunday 1-4 \$424,888
669 32nd St. Richmond. 3BR/1BA, new paint, hardwood floors, 243-3705 #0143 Sharon Brown (510) 758-5637

CASTRO VALLEY

Sunday 1-5 \$1,000,000
19100 Crest #56. Castro Valley. 2BR/2BA, fireplace, no stairs. Arthur White (510) 428-0900

RESIDENTIAL INVESTMENT

Sunday 2-5 \$1,000,000
1100 Norwood Ave., Oakland. Fab duplex. Old world! Dolores Thom (510) 868-1482

Sunday 1-4 \$849,000
327-329 62nd St. Rockridge. Expansive 3BR/2BA. 2BR/1BA. lg. h/wds. Roy Grigsby (510) 428-0900

Sunday 2-4 \$749,000
59 Hamilton. Oakland. Brown shingles. nr Lk Merritt/BART. Own your piece. Judith Glass/Sheila Sabine (510) 428-0900

COMMERCIAL INVESTMENT

Oakland Mixed-Use \$750,000
Storefront w/lower unit. Plus 30,000 sq ft. nr Fruit BART. Barry Klein (510) 428-0900

LOTS FOR SALE

Sunday 9-9 \$675,000
0 Lauriston Ct. Oakland. Private cul-de-sac. 20 contiguous lots. Must see. Gregory Garrett (510) 868-1482

Looking for an exciting and challenging career?

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800-499-5551

OPEN open home

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Hills Real Estate & Home: THE place to turn for up-to-date East Bay real estate information

Alameda Splendor: a sampling of historic homes

ALAMEDA MUSEUM

The Alameda Museum and the Alameda Architectural Preservation Society invite you to "Alameda Splendor: a Sampling of Historic Homes," this Sunday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The tour features nine homes, built between 1884 and 1912. The tour starts at Franklin Park at the intersection of Morton Street and San Jose Avenue.

Five of the houses on the tour are in the Eastlake style — popular in the 1880s — country houses built before the 1889 Alameda building boom. Two of the Eastlake houses have newly remodeled kitchens with custom cabinets, countertops of marble, limestone

and granite and high-end appliances, all of which integrate well with the original interiors.

Tickets for the tour are \$20 in advance, or \$25 the day of the tour. Advance ticket vouchers are available on the Web at www.alameda-home-tour.org, or at the following locations in Alameda: ■ Thomsen's Garden Center,

1113 Lincoln Ave. ■ Spellbinding Tales, 1910A Encinal Ave.

■ Daisy's, 1504 Encinal Ave. Tickets will be available the day of the tour at Franklin Park at the intersection of Morton Street and San Jose Avenue.

To learn more about the tour call 510-523-5907.

Unique North Berkeley Home

This lovely home offers wonderful Japanese details. Custom made, sliding shoji screens adorn the spacious living room windows. There are 3BD/2BA, nicely landscaped grounds & a seemingly endless backyard. Japanese pear, pomegranate and lemon trees provide fresh fruit for the table! Convenient to N. Berkeley BART. Offered at \$625,000.

Lovely Montclair Retreat

This lovely Montclair home offers a delightful sense of seclusion while still being convenient to the Village. 2BD/2BA, classy new kitchen, wonderful porch & patio, wooded grounds & 2 car attached garage! \$659,000

510/526-4336

10800 Hanks Street, B.

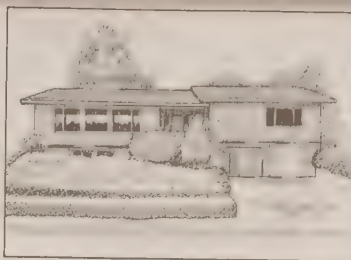
Wonderful Albany Opportunity

Do you dream of an affordable home that needs work? Do you have a sense of history and tradition? This classic 2BD/1BA bungalow on a large 5000SF lot is just waiting for a tasteful renovation. Large sunny yard, heritage roses & Albany Schools. A great find and very affordable at \$429,000

Berkeley Brown Shingle Triplex

Rare brown shingle compound! There are 3 lovely units here, nicely nestled on a beautiful, landscaped lot. 4BD/2BA, 3BD/2BA front building & 2+BD/2BA spacious rear cottage. Condo-conversion application process already underway, or perfect for owner/occupant. \$1,450,000

Mid-Century Beauty in the El Cerrito Hills!



8661 Don Carol, El Cerrito
Offered at \$759,000

Prudential
California Realty

COMING SOON

This lovely three bedroom, two bath home is located in the El Cerrito hills. It has a stunning panoramic view. The kitchen looks out on to the unbelievably large and level backyard (the lot size is over 8000 sq. ft.). Newly refinished hardwood floors and new paint inside and out. A very large home office/family room is on the lower level.

Roy Grigsby
510.845.0211 Office
510.273.9756 Voicemail
Roy.Grigsby@Prudential.com



KORMAN NG

real estate services

North Berkeley Classic Victorian

1919 Virginia Street, Berkeley



OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY Sept. 18th
2:00 P.M. - 4:30 P.M. 3 BR, 2 BA
Contact: Miriam Ng • (510) 845-8326

Charming Victorian in the most desirable location. Master Bedroom with large Sun Porch. Formal Dining Room and eat-in Kitchen for entertaining. Extend your play space to the Deck and Garden. Large Garage for your car or art & craft Studio. Walking distance to the Gourmet Ghetto, UC Campus and BART.

Offered at: \$728,000

For more details, go to www.kormanandng.com

2025 ROSE STREET, BERKELEY, CA 94709

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Three wonderfully individualized and detached condominiums. Each charming unit has one bedroom, one bath and a garage. Very convenient to Westbrae shops and BART.

#1235 Offered at \$359,000
#1237 Offered at \$379,000
#1239 Offered at \$369,000



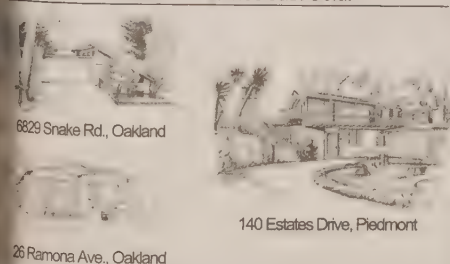
1235, 1237, 1239 Evelyn Avenue
Berkeley

The GRUBB Co.
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ANNE VAN DYKE
Office: 510.339.0400/2399
avdyke@grubbco.com



These Fine Homes Just Sold!



6829 Snake Rd., Oakland

140 Estates Drive, Piedmont

26 Ramona Ave., Oakland

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For over Twenty Years!

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Coming Soon!



In the heart of Oakland's Fruitvale District

Beautifully remodeled (with permits) homes on one lot. Quality craftsmanship these homes apart. While the primary home features two bedrooms/one bathroom with a spacious family room and fireplace in the living room, hardwood/tile floors, all new stainless steel appliances and a new foundation. The secondary home has one bedroom/one bathroom with a large living room along with a small kitchen/computer room. Both homes have new plumbing/electrical systems, and are finished with kitchen wood cabinets and granite countertops. A spacious enclosed yard offers ample off street parking and convenient access to BART, AC and 580/880 Hwy's.

MONTCLAIR

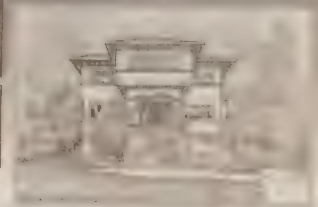


David Sykes
510.339.4558 direct
510.339.8400 office

12 Alvarado

Near the
Claremont Hotel

SOLD!



12 Alvarado Road, Berkeley

Sold over original asking price of \$1,730,000



Julie Nachtwey

www.julienachtwey.com

510.540.8743

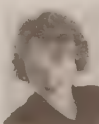
PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

2411 Oregon St. Berkeley

Quintessential Victorian exterior with remodeled sophisticated details. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Deck and hot tub ~ close to BART. College Ave and UC.

TOBA SCHWARTZ
(510) 851-2181

THORNWALL Properties



555 10th Street #116 Historic Downtown Oakland

Open Sunday, Sept. 18th, 2-5 PM

\$339,000

Peace & Serenity in the heart of town!
Two Blocks to BART & Much More!



Adrienne Nash, CRS
Oakland Native, Oakland/Berkeley Specialist
510-763-4060

- Amazing!!! Peace & quiet in the heart of downtown!
- Built as condominium in 1998, Pristine 1 bedroom unit.
- In unit washer and dryer.
- Large, serene parklike garden courtyard + clubhouse
- Near BART, Farmer's Market, Club One, restaurants & more!

Visual Tour + full MLS: www.homesbynash.com

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California Realty

Berkeley Historical Society kicks off its fall walking tours tomorrow

BERKELEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Berkeley Historical Society announces its series of fall walking tours beginning with the Claremont-Elmwood paths on Saturday, Sept. 17 and ending Saturday, Nov. 12 with the bonus tour of the Ashby Arts District.

All tours start at 10 a.m. and end about noon. Tours are limited to 30 paying participants unless otherwise noted and pre-paid reservations are required. The non-refundable donation for each tour is \$8 for BHS members and \$10 for the general public.

For more information, call 510-848-0181 or visit www.cityofberkeley.info/histsoc/.

Here's the information about tomorrow's tour:

SATURDAY, SEPT 17

Claremont-Elmwood Paths, Houses and History

The hilly neighborhoods of southeast Berkeley contain a wide variety of early 20th century houses, estates, paths and other developments. The tour will include architect Leola Hall's 1912 "Honeycomb House," artist Richard Diebenkorn's 1950s resi-

dence built in 1889, the still-impressive remains of the vast "Tibetan-Mission style" Taylor mansion, a goose farm, a small cemetery and more. Longtime resident and local historian Ron Sipherd will lead the tour.

**PLEASE BE KIND TO
THE ENVIRONMENT.
RECYCLE THIS
NEWSPAPER.**

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A sophisticated contemporary level-in retreat on a cul-de-sac with stunning Bay and Golden Gate views. Master suite on the main level. Two + bedrooms, three baths, family room, office/nursery.

Photos@ www.36drury.com
Offered at \$1,050,000

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GRUBBCO.COM

Office: 510.652.2133/424
hbarkin@grubbco.com
helenebarkin.com

HELENE BARKIN

36 Drury Lane
Berkeley



open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Romantic North Berkeley Mediterranean. Three bedrooms, one bath. Tastefully remodeled throughout. Chef's kitchen, formal dining room with built-ins. Gracious living room with large Craftsman fireplace and French doors to balcony. Lovely gardens with pond and hot tub. Close to "Gourmet Ghetto", Monterey Market and Solano Avenue.

Offered at \$789,000

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Office: 510.339.0400/224
starr@grubbco.com

KAREN STARR

1243 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Berkeley



PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2-5PM

Reminiscent of the grand Mediterranean Villas, this 1920's architectural gem is set on beautifully landscaped grounds and flower bedecked terraces in prime Central Piedmont Location. The property boasts three large bedroom suites, three full baths, grand formal rooms that open to lovely verandas, gorgeous original details, and a wonderful kitchen. A show piece that must be experienced!



Fritz Hochfellner

510.338.1348 •



230 Highland Avenue, Piedmont
Offered at \$1,549,000

www.fritzsellshomes.com

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. An extremely charming three + bedroom home in a great location. Beautiful hardwood floors, updated kitchen and baths. Gorgeous back garden.

Offered at \$719,000

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ANIAN PETTIT TUNNEY, CRS
Office: 510.339.0400/217
tunney@grubbco.com

4344 Anderson Avenue
Oakland



MONTCLAIR • PIEDMONT PINES



Executive Estate 3299 BRUNELL DRIVE

A very bright home with open contemporary floor plan in the heart of the East Bay hills. Very private. Great San Francisco, Golden Gate, South Bay panoramic views. Wonderful usable half acre lot. In-law unit with sauna. 5 BR 3.5 Bath, large living room, gourmet kitchen, family entertainment center, Master suite with Jacuzzi tub. Large patios, landscaped backyard w/fruit trees, 2 car garage, workshop w/view, wine cellar. Lot split potential.

Offered at \$1,425,000

OPEN SUN SEPT. 18TH • 2-5PM



Yehuda Ben-David (510) 524-3510
www.newspringrealestate.com



The Weekly Sales are in the Auto Section of

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Best of country living in the Berkeley hills! Part of the Park Hills Association featuring a private park. Adjacent to Tilden Park and one block to Golf Course. Pristine mid-century modern! There are three bedrooms including a master suite, two bathrooms, spacious living room with fireplace, formal dining room with French doors to garden and lawn, double garage with interior entry and lovely oversized garden in a natural setting. Offered at \$699,000



1180 Park Hills Road
Berkeley

SUSIE SCHEVILL

Office: 510.652.2133/447
sschevill@grubbco.com

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

open sunday

10 Moss Avenue #19, Oakland

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This stylish, light-filled condominium is close to Piedmont Avenue shops, theatre and the Grand Lake area. Two bedrooms, one bath, balcony and covered parking.

Offered at \$349,000

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Office: 510.339.0400/203
winchester@grubbco.com



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Berkeley, CA

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Coming Soon - Alameda Gold Coast Neighborhood 1626-1628 Alameda Avenue



Impressive Turn of the Century Colonial Revival

Welcome to the perfect 1909 as a large family estate. 4,416 square foot home with owner-occupied duplex with single family home with open entire extended family room with pocket doors with hardwood floors covered built in cabinets. The extra rooms and porches take time to a grand epoch. Large and large rooms give you comfort. Step inside with this gorgeous home. Front and half basement. Serene courtyard garden.

Gallagher & Lindsey
REALTORS



MICHELE POULTER (LA GRONE)
BROKER ASSOCIATE/REALTOR®

MicheleP@GallagherandLindsey.com

510.990.7000

NEW MONTCLAIR LISTING

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2-4:30PM

5927 Zinn Drive, Oakland

This lovely, light and bright 5BR/3BA Montclair home was built six years ago and meticulously updated and maintained. The views are impressive and the park like yard is perfect for casual entertaining. Just 1/4 mile to Montclair Village.

Offered at \$1,295,000



Dee Knowland
510.338.1318



PACIFIC UNION
ESTATES

www.pacificunion.com

www.DeKnowland.com

The Open Home Guide starts on B26.

coming soon

Rare and elegant all-level living in the center of town. Experience the feel of soaring ceilings, sunny rooms and beautiful hardwood floors.

Offered at \$1,695,000

120 Caperton Avenue
Piedmont

The GRUBB Co.
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ANIAN PETTIT TUNNEY, CRS
Office: 510.339.0400/217
tunney@grubbco.com

Are you 55 or older & thinking of moving?

Looking to downsize? Tired of stairs? Too much maintenance? Want to live in a different city?

Learn how to:

- Keep your property tax rate the same.
- Finance a new home prior to selling your existing home.
- Purchase a new home of equal or lesser value.
- Take advantage of propositions 60 and 90.

Come Join Jeff Goodman
Certified Residential Specialist
Harbor Bay Realty

Saturday, September 17th
From 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.
Alliance Title
887 Island Dr. Suite C, Alameda

Call 510-814-4885 for a reservation

Open Sunday 2-4

332 35th St., Richmond North & East
Sparkling, stylish split level MacGeger style home in desirable North & East Richmond neighborhood. Two bedrooms and one bath, formal dining room, built-ins, hardwood floors throughout, attached garage, private landscaped yard.

Offered at \$399,000

Ury Beary
Broker Associate
527-8545
UryBeary@comcast.net

STASKY & COMPANY REAL ESTATE

3720 Esmond Avenue, Richmond
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Just Listed!

Adorable Berkeley Style Cottage with cathedral ceiling. Two bedrooms, beautiful remodeled tiled bath, updated kitchen, cozy dining area, computer alcove, living room with handsome fireplace and hardwood floors. Delightful garden areas.

Offered at \$379,000

John Stasky & Company Real Estate
(510) 525-8800
Photos at www.Johnstasky.com

Four Units In Richmond Annex

Open Sunday 2-4

5903 Bayview Ave.
Outstanding fourplex on El Cerrito border. 3 very spacious 2BR/1.5 Bath townhouse units + a very nice 2BR/1 Bath flat. Private patios, laundry room, garage, steps from shopping, restaurants and BART.

Offered at \$799,000


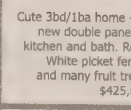

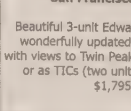
Ury Beary
Broker Associate
527-8545
UryBeary@comcast.net

Gallagher & Lindsey REALTORS®

820 Peralta Street - Oakland - \$700,000
The latest Urban Offering of award-winning architect Paul Wang. Captures historic elements in modern design. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. 10-foot ceilings, natural light. The kitchen features marble counters and maple cabinetry. The commuter friendly location is the "Best in the Bay" - perfect family home. Move-in Ready with fully landscaped yard featuring a beautiful Oak tree.

510-301-4004
Jim@JimNations.com

A sampling of our current listings:

| | |
|---|--|
|  <p>San Pablo Cute 3bd/1ba home -- hardwood floors, new double pane windows, tiled kitchen and bath. Roof is 5 years old. White picket fence front yard and many fruit trees in backyard \$425,000</p> |  <p>San Francisco -- Mission Beautiful 3-unit Edwardian. 2 2bd units, wonderfully updated 3bd top floor unit with views to Twin Peaks. Ideal investment or as TICs (two units vacant at COE). \$1,795,000</p> |
|  <p>Mill Valley Charming 4 bd, 1 ba home in popular Sycamore Park close to schools, rec center, downtown & more. Refinished floors and new paint inside and outside facade. Use as is or bring your imagination. There's lots of potential. \$950,000</p> |  <p>San Francisco 2241 Market St San Francisco</p> |

Prudential California Realty
Jim Hedges
manager
stunionjim@aol.com
415-762-9399

2200 Union St
San Francisco

and our newest location!
221 Caledonia St
Sausalito

JUST LISTED!

2854 Lincoln Avenue
Just steps from Gibbons Drive, this gracious home has it all. Tiled Foyer, arched doorways, LR featuring fireplace & unique original windows. Large formal DR. 3 Bedrooms, all with generous closets. 2 Full baths, plus Powder Room. Master suite w/his & hers closets, adjoins a vintage style bath. FR w/2nd fireplace & French doors to large rear yard. 2607 sq. ft. of living area. Det 2-car garage w/ long driveway.
\$999,999

1839 Elm St.
Sunny single level filled with charm. Living & Formal dining rooms both have window seats & leaded glass windows. FP in DR. 2 Bedrooms & 1 Bath in main house. Detached 2-Car garage w/workshop. Over garage is a spacious plus room that was rehabed, with permits, in the mid-80s. It has cathedral ceilings, loads of windows, heat, etc. Newly sodded rear yard w/ large deck.
\$609,000

Mindy Hart - Kane & Associates - 510-523-0746

RED OAK REALTY

42 ARLINGTON AVENUE KENSINGTON

Classic Contemporary with incredible views! This serene, Ranch-style level-in home with over 3,000 square feet of living space sits on nearly half an acre and boasts three plus bedrooms, two and a half baths, with two master bedroom suites. The elegant and spacious floor plan also includes a formal living room with fireplace and a great room/dining room combination with vaulted ceiling, slate floors, wet bar and an indoor grill with copper hood. Enjoy the outdoor spa and covered brick patio with SF/Golden Gate views. An attached two-car garage with circular driveway add to the convenience. Close to shops, transportation, Tilden Park and Kensington schools.
LISTED AT \$1,130,000

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH 1-5PM

Tim Scully, Realtor®
DIRECT: 510-280-2146 EMAIL: agentscully@redoakrealty.com

RED OAK REALTY

Just Listed!

1292 DELAWARE STREET, BERKELEY
Magical Mediterranean in Berkeley. Great 3+ bedroom, 1 bath-split level home; near Ohlone Park, Northbrae shops, and BART. Spacious living room, hardwood floors, fireplace, formal dining, beautiful fenced front and back yard; with a separate workshop and more!
LISTED AT \$649,000

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH 2-4PM

Feri Niroomand, Realtor®
DIRECT: 510-409-9111 EMAIL: feri@redoakrealty.com

Established
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REALTY

www.redoakrealty.com

1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94707

RED OAK REALTY

Grand Mansion



635 SPRUCE STREET, OAKLAND

A grand and traditional Haddon Hill neighborhood home with original details and built-ins. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 bathrooms. Beautiful views! Grand central entry, formal dining room and large living room with Bay window.

LISTED AT \$650,000

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH 2-4:30 PM

Peter Campbell & Nicole Forte, Realtors®

DIRECT: 510-280-2134

DIRECT: 510-280-2189

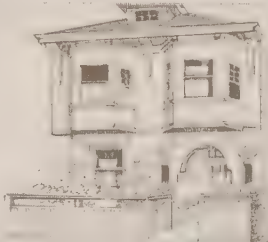
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2983 College Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94705

RED OAK REALTY

Home and Income



5882 & 5882 1/2 VALLEJO STREET, OAKLAND

Edwardian Duplex on Emeryville border

Wonderful architectural details, immense side garden, lots of parking

Storage, laundry, + rear studio

Close to Pixar, Rudy's, and Emeryville shopping!

LISTED AT \$729,000

SHOWN BY APPT. - TWO BROKERS OPEN 9/15 & 9/22

Adrienne Broché, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2185 EMAIL: adrienne@redoakrealty.com

Established
1976RED OAK
REALTY

www.redoakrealty.com

2099 Pleasant Valley
Oakland, CA 94611

RED OAK REALTY

Sophisticated Urbanism



1010 KAINS AVENUE, ALBANY

Four new townhouse style condos located in the ever popular town of Albany. Two and three bedroom homes with 2.5 baths, private decks, views, 2 car parking and quality throughout.

LISTED AT \$639,000

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH & 25TH 1-4 PM

Patrick Leaper, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2110 WEBSITE: www.1010KainsAlbany.com

Established
1976RED OAK
REALTY

www.redoakrealty.com

1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94707

RED OAK REALTY

Point Richmond Fourplex!



127 COTTAGE AVENUE, POINT RICHMOND

NEW LISTING! Classic Victorian in the heart of quaint Point Richmond. All four units have been rehabbed and are vacant, ready for market rents. Incredible investment opportunity!

LISTED AT \$799,000

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH 2-4 PM

Grace Bishop, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2178 EMAIL: grace@redoakrealty.com

Established
1976RED OAK
REALTY

www.redoakrealty.com

1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94707

RED OAK REALTY

Just Listed!



1908 FRANCISCO WAY, RICHMOND

A few houses from the El Cerrito border on a quiet street, this home is a delightful and sunny retreat. There are 3 bedrooms (one a possible room/office), 1 bath and lovely indoor/outdoor spaces with some views. Oversized windows. The home is in move-in condition and has recent grades including refinished hardwood floors. Delightful! LISTED AT \$449,000

PHOTOS AT WWW.GOTMANNING.COM

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH 2-4:30

Pamela Manning, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-280-2113 EMAIL: gotmanning@aol.com

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the Area, and the Most
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competitive...It's critical to work
with a team who can
deliver a great loan
program on time.Here's an example of one of our
great loan programs:

HOME LOAN: \$700,000

MONTHLY PAYMENT: \$1,177

LOAN REQUIREMENTS: 5.578% APR; 1 year pre-payment
DRE #01183856; Rates & Terms subject to change with
Equal Housing Lender; Possible negative amortization

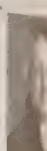
ALEX ALEXANDER

510-292-2020

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Oakland

VINCE WIRTHMAN

510-504-5683

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RED OAK REALTY | Homes Open Sunday

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ALBANY \$849,000
3/2 - Rare roomy home with family room, master suite, sunny deck, big yard in a wonderful neighborhood near BART, shops & restaurants
1612 Sonoma Avenue Open 2-5



ALBANY - NEW! \$789,000
3/2 - Two blocks to Solano Avenue. Hardwood floors, remodeled baths, master suite, landscaped yard. Photos at www.katieandmark.com
707 Cornell Avenue Open 2-4:30



ALBANY \$699,000
2/1 - Lovely cottage with hardwood floors, fireplace, updated kitchen, built-in cabinets, garden with gazebo
1501 Visalia Avenue Open 2-4



ALBANY - NEW! \$639,000 EACH
CONDOS - 4 exciting new townhome style condos near Solano Avenue. For more information, visit www.1010KainsAlbany.com
1010 Kains Avenue Open 1-4



EL CERRITO \$519,000
3/2 - Large home including HUGE recreation room with 2nd fireplace & beamed ceilings. Large lot. More info at www.bobbiumberg.com
648 Norvell Street Open 2-4:30



KENSINGTON \$1,130,000
3+2+ - Spacious level-in Contemporary with views, over 3,000 sq. ft. Master suites, slate floors, indoor grill, spa & patio with view. More!
42 Arlington Avenue Open 1-5



POINT RICHMOND - NEW! \$799,000
FOURPLEX - Incredible investment opportunity! Victorian with two 2/1, one 1/1 and one studio, all vacant & rehabbed
127 Cottage Avenue Open 2-4



RICHMOND - NEW! \$525,000
3/2 - Great Mira Vista location. Charming, pride-of-ownership, near BART. Sunny, lovely garden, large lot
403 Dimm Street Open 2-4

RICHMOND \$699,000
3/2.5 - Stunning remodeled home with hardwood floors, gourmet kitchen, lovely baths, family room, exquisite backyard. Immaculate!
80 Seabreeze Drive Open 2-4

RICHMOND VIEW \$499,000
3/1 - Sunny & bright with lovely indoor/outdoor spaces and some views. Upgrades have created move-in condition. Visit www.gotmaning.com
1908 Francisco Way Open 2-4:30

POINT RICHMOND - NEW! \$759,000
3/2 - Elegant, sophisticated home with breathtaking Bay views. Gourmet kitchen, exquisite hardwood floors, 2 decks. Mint condition.
742 Lobos Avenue Open 1-4

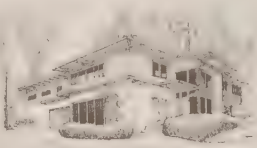
EMERYVILLE \$429,000
1/1 - Brand new luxury condo at Andante End unit with City views! Near Bay Street, transportation and more
1121 40th Street #4308 Open 1:30-4



BERKELEY \$599,000
2/1 - Craftsman bungalow. Living and dining rooms with fabulous view; fireplace, refinished oak floors, and large private yard
1374 Francisco Street Open 2-4



BERKELEY - NEW! \$329,000
1/1 - Colonial Revival building. Living room with built-ins, wood floors, updated kitchen & bath, deck overlooks peaceful garden
1814 Blake Street #3 Open 2-4



BERKELEY \$1,795,000
4+3 - Fabulous 3,500 sq.ft. Contemporary on 0.49 acre secluded lot. Majestic great room with copper fireplace. Soaring ceilings
69 Parnassus Road Open 2-4



BERKELEY \$649,000
3/1 - Magical split-level Mediterranean near Ohlone Park, Northbrae shops & BART. Spacious living room, backyard, workshop
1292 Delaware Street Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$649,000
2/2 - Charming, sunny Hiller Highlands condo with fabulous view; two car parking; move-in condition. SPECIAL!
42 Spyglass Hill Open 2-4



OAKLAND - NEW! \$650,000
4/2.5 - Grand, traditional Haddon Hill neighborhood home with original details and built-ins. Views from most rooms. More!
635 Spruce Street Open 2-4:30



OAKLAND \$725,000
2/1 - Sunny Craftsman in Rockridge, original details include built-ins, box-beams and stone fireplace. Refinished hardwoods & fresh paint.
5156 Shafter Avenue Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$715,000
3/1 - Charming Craftsman with living room, dining room, fireplace & built-ins; remodeled eat-in kitchen, deck, yard & hot tub
390 63rd Street Open 2-4

OAKLAND \$658,000
3/2.5 - Spacious, light-filled home near Montclair Village & Redwood Park. Fabulous floorplan. More at www.izumitada.com
6756 Banning Drive Open 2-4:30

OAKLAND - NEW! \$1,480,000
4 UNITS - Fantastic opportunity! +/-6,000 sq ft. warehouse with space set up as 4 units. More at www.thinkingaboutachange.com
447 25th Street Open 2-4:30

OAKLAND \$399,000
2/1 - 1920's cottage in Laurel district. Lot is over 10,000 square feet & may be subdividable. Hardwood floors, built-ins. Needs TLC.
4779 Daisy Street Open 1:30-4

OAKLAND \$359,000
LOFT - Sleek, sunwashed 830 sq.ft. 1/1+ in warehouse conversion with mezzanine & parking. Visit www.saragarabedian.com
2323 Magnolia Street #3 Open 2-4



OAKLAND \$499,000
3/3 - Maxwell Park charmer with gleaming hardwood floors, large backyard, hill views, 2-car garage and room for expansion.
4501 Camden Street Open 1:30-4:30



OAKLAND \$485,000
3/3 - Fabulous. This wonderfully spacious home is an absolute must see! Includes a new master suite with a retreat spa bathroom.
2102 E. 24th Street SAT + SUN 2-4:30



OAKLAND \$389,000
2/1 - Stylish, mid-century, semi-detached condo with partial Bay view. Sunny open floorplan, new kitchen & bath, private patio.
2938 Morgan Avenue Open 1-4



OAKLAND \$479,000
LOFT - Two-story with volume, space & light; stainless steel kitchen, approx. 1,200 sq.ft., private patio. Visit www.saragarabedian.com
2323 Magnolia Street #12 Open 2-4

OAKLAND \$519,000
2+1 - Super cute cottage close to Ashby BART and College Avenue shops. Photos and details at www.charliecookproperties.com
720 58th Street Open 2-4:30

OAKLAND \$499,000
2/1.5 - Location! Charming condo just 1 block from College Avenue markets, shops and BART. 2-story townhouse feel
6422 Benvenue Avenue Open 2-4

SAN FRANCISCO \$475,000
1/1 - Victorian condo with updated kitchen & bath near Geary and Divisadero. 5 minutes to Fillmore Street & Japan Center.
1951 O'Farrell Street Open 1-4

Established 1976



RED OAK REALTY

1801 SOLANO AVENUE
BERKELEY, CA 94707
PHONE: 510-627-3387

2983 COLLEGE AVENUE
BERKELEY, CA 94705
PHONE: 510-849-9990

2089 PLEASANT VALLEY
OAKLAND, CA 94611
PHONE: 510-292-2000

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TOP PRODUCERS
FOR THE MONTH OF
AUGUST 2005!



KATIE & MARK LEDERER
Top Team Producers



MARJORIE SPERBER
2983 College Avenue



HILA AZIMZAI
2999 Pleasant Valley



LEIF JENSEN
1891 Solano Avenue



RED OAK REALTY



707 CORNELL AVENUE, ALBANY

JUST LISTED! This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home is just 2 blocks to Solano Avenue's shops and restaurants. Features include a lovely landscaped yard, detached garage, hardwood floors, remodeled baths and a beautiful master bedroom. Photos at www.katieandmark.com. LISTED AT \$789,000

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH 2-4:30 PM

The Lederers, Realtors® DIRECT: 510-280-2121

Established
1976



RED OAK REALTY

www.redoakrealty.com
1891 Solano Avenue
Berkeley CA 94707

RED OAK REALTY



805 CURTIS STREET, ALBANY

\$60,000 PRICE REDUCTION! - 2 bedroom, 1 bath with a cottage in back. Offers as presented. Call for updated disclosures. LISTED AT \$675,000

OPEN SUNDAYS, SEPTEMBER 18TH & 25TH 1-5 PM

Robin Kingsbury, Realtor®

DIRECT: 510-932-3538 EMAIL: robin@redoakrealty.com

Taking a look around the East Bay real estate community

BY BOBBIE REID
CORRESPONDENT

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries

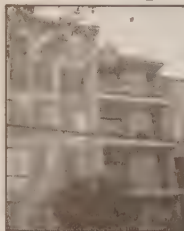
FOR THE PUBLIC

KW Yard Sale
The Keller Williams Oakland/Piedmont branch hopes to raise \$30,000 for the victims of

Hurricane Katrina. To raise funds the realty group is having a Giant Yard Sale in their parking lot, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., tomorrow. Everyone is welcome. To donate directly with money or goods call Vanessa Bergmark at 510-899-8102. Online donations can be made at KW-cares.com.

See REID, Page B17

771 Kingston Ave. 3402, Oakland



Top Level Unit Near Piedmont

Spacious condo with great natural light! Rare 2 bedroom PLUS DEN/2 bath 4th floor unit. Good level of privacy! Pergo floors, Private balcony, Ample closets. Kitchen with plenty of cabinets, custom paint, recent carpet. Laundry room next door. Shared storage room on the same level. 1 car garage and guest parking.

Offered at \$489,000
Open house 09/17/05 and 09/18/05 from 1 to 5 pm.

RE/MAX
EXECUTIVE

Elena Stone
Broker Associate
(510) 435-6229
www.elenastone.com



A Ten On The Ready To Move Into Meter



1109 Rosewood Way \$695,000
Open Sunday 2-4

This single level three plus bedroom home with two full baths sits on an oversized, sunny corner lot in the South Shore area of Alameda. Updated kitchen and baths with granite Countertops, Pergo hardwood floors. Andersen Sliders and dual pane windows throughout. Great front and back yards. Walk to the beach or to shopping at South Shore. The exterior has been freshly painted. Termite clearance and a property inspection are available for review.

Homes-Link Real Estate/Broker Owner
510-748-5300 www.Homes-Link.com

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

Only Sunday, September 18, 2-4:30 PM

NEW LISTING



6228 Ridgmont Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$899,000



Robyn Mohr
510.338.1310

www.robynmohr.com
robyn@robynmohr.com

THE GARDEN COMPOUND OF ENDLESS SUMMERS



9241 Thermal Avenue, Oakland
Open Sunday 2-4:30

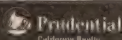
The sun always seems to shine in Toler Heights. And that's where you'll find this incredible garden compound. It has a completely renovated main house with 2 bedrooms and 2 baths, a 2-bedroom cottage, landscaped grounds with decks, native plants, hot tub, a gazebo and even a bridge. Wow, no wonder it feels like summer every day.

Offered at \$537,000



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John Chang
Realtor

3111 LA CAMPANIA, BAY FARM OF ALAMEDA
Beautiful 4bed 2.5 bath townhome in Casitas on Bay Farm. Updated kitchen & bath, landscaped courtyard, new double pane windows, ceiling fans and large livingroom. 2 car garage. Open Sat & Sun 1-4
\$578,000

1028 TRELLIS LN, BAY FARM OF ALAMEDA
3bed 2.5 bath townhome w/ gorgeous recent updates. Granite counter top, stainless steel appliances, marbled bathrooms, tile floors, new carpet and new landscaping. Open floor plan. Open Sat & Sun 1-4
\$599,000

1125 BISHOP ST. EAST END OF ALAMEDA
Updated 4bed 2bath SFR. 1 car garage. Huge finished basement. Great potential.
OPEN SUN 1-4
\$749,000

32 THURLES PLACE, BAY FARM OF ALAMEDA
4bd 2.5 ba SFR + sunroom in a cul-de-sac. oversized lot, long driveway, great schools.
OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4
\$848,000

325 KITTY HAWK, SOUTHSORE OF ALAMEDA
2bd 2 full bath large condo w/beautiful upgrades, half block to beach-pool & clubhouse.
OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4
\$469,900

Open Sunday
Sept. 18th
2 - 4:30 pm

Listed for
\$359,000

Condo convenient to Campus, on College
3109-B College Ave., Berkeley

ENJOY A SYLVAN AND PEACEFUL VIEW FROM THIS ONE-BEDROOM, UPSTAIRS BACK UNIT. THE LOCATION PROVIDES IDEAL ACCESS TO THE U.C. CAMPUS, ELMWOOD AND ROCKRIDGE SHOPS, AND TRANSPORTATION. IT FEATURES:

- Living room has been freshly painted • ref. hardwood floors
- spacious bedroom with wonderful light; large closet • full bathroom • eat-in kitchen • designated off-street parking
- low dues • one of three units in this building

ARLENE BAXTER
Call me at 510.524.1700 x 19
baxter@pobox.com
View a photo tour at
www.berkhills.com

BERKELEY HILLS REALTY

3 New Listings

OPEN SUN 2-4:30

2017 SAN MATEO ST., RICHMOND
RICHMOND ANNE
#312-Charming older home in convenient location, spacious living room/dining, family room, deck and large lot w/lot of potential
Offered at \$445,000

NEWLY REDONE
#272-El Cerrito home w/southern hill view. Very nice w/wood floors, new large deck, newer kitchen & large storage. Basement Master suite w/bath, formal dining rm, eat-in kitchen. Central heat, fireplace, laundry rm & 1 block to BART, bus & shopping
\$634,650

ALREADY CHARMING
#223-Beautifully remodeled home w/ attached gar. Features dual pane windows updated kit w/stainless steel appliances. Refinished wood flooring throughout, work shed & fresh paint. Close to Solano Ave, shops & restaurants. Easy access to freeway & transportation. Ready to move in
Only \$549,000

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OAKLAND \$985,000
OPEN SUN 2-4:30

Spectacular Claremont Hills Townhome
This spacious and luxurious 3bd/2.5ba townhome in the Oakland/Berkeley Hills offers fabulous views, granite gourmet kitchen/FR combo, 3-car garage, MBD, and elevator.

OAKLAND \$635,000
OPEN SUN 2-4:30

Rockridge Gem
Fantastic property with many upgrades and amenities. 2bd/1ba, fireplace, hardwood floors. Landscaped front and back yard. Close to BART and Market Hall. A must see.

Open Sun Sept. 18th • 2 - 4:30 PM

1231 Oxford St. Berkeley
\$885,000

Brown Shingle House and Legal Cottage
3 bedroom, 2 bath c. 1904 - gracious rooms, elegant details. Remodeled cottage and nestled in rear garden

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CASTLE ROCK REALTY

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT OF HOMES & APARTMENTS

528-9292
DAVID RATOOSH / KEITH CARROLL • BR

POINT RICHMOND GEM
442 Golden Gate

Open Sun 2-4

WHAT A FIND!
Charming Historical District
1BR/1BA cabin on large lot zoned for multiple-family residences with great views of the S.F. Bay!

Nancy Foss Thornwall Properties
510-915-2024

ALAIN PINEL REALTORS 6116 La Salle • Montclair 510-859-9999

Hills Real Estate & Home: THE place to turn for up-to-date East Bay real estate information

Interest-only loans offer payment shock

BY KATHLEEN LYNN
THE RECORD (HACKENSACK, N.J.)

Almost a year after they purchased a condominium, Dana Defonte and Michael Olin haven't paid a penny of the principal. "We wanted to keep our monthly payments down," said Defonte.

They took an interest-only mortgage, a common type of financing that allows borrowers to postpone principal payments. In their case, monthly payments are about

\$150 lower than they would be with a conventional mortgage - for now. But today's low payments come at the cost of higher payments later, when borrowers will have to start paying off the principal.

Defonte and Olin aren't worried about payment shock, in part because they expect to sell their condo before 2009, when they are obligated to start making payments on the principal. But homeowners who use interest-only loans and

stay put long enough could face a jump of \$500, \$1,000 or more in their monthly payments. Typically, the increase begins after five years. "If you're stretched to the max to be able to make the interest-only payments, the question is: What are you going to do when the principal comes due?" said Doug Duncan, chief economist of the Mortgage Bankers Association in Washington.

See SHOCK, Page B13

sold
sold



90 Feralynn Court, Oakland
Originally offered at \$717,000
Represented the seller



94 Fairlawn Drive, Berkeley
Originally offered at \$770,000
Represented the seller

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

ANNE FESTE
Office: 510.339.0400/371
afeste@grubbco.com



open
sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Dramatic & sophisticated Claremont Pines home, complete with enchanting formal rooms, expansive kitchen w/breakfast room, family room, home office, wet-bar & 3-car garage. Outdoor terrace, gardens & pool.

Offered at \$2,175,000



95 Westminster Drive
Claremont Pines

The GRUBB Co.
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DEBBI DiMAGGIO
Office: 510.339.0400/227
dimaggio@grubbco.com



3 Homes On 1 Lot

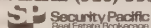


982, 988, 994 Balmore Ct., El Sobrante

Each home is a 2 bedroom detached house with a large 7000 sq.ft. flat lot. Hardwood floors, spacious storage areas, carports. Located on a private cul-de-sac in a quiet, country setting yet only minutes to I80. One home has been totally renovated with new kitchen, bath, windows, and doors. The other two are tenant occupied. Perfect for large family compound, TIC or possible condo conversion.

Open Sunday Sept. 18th, 1-5

JAMIE LAKE (510) 333-3415



Offered at \$1,050,000

NEW LISTING...



858 44th Street, Oakland
\$488,000

Lovingly restored two bedroom gem on a quiet street in a rapidly up & coming neighborhood! Spacious, remodeled eat-in kitchen opens to serene yard. The sunny plus room on the main level is perfect for an office or nursery. Special details throughout... faux wood trim, newly refinished floors, graceful archways, original tile fireplace and charming period bathroom.



Ruth Goldstone
(510) 527-2700 x41
(510) 418-7191
ruthgoldstone@aol.com

marvin
gardens

COMING SOON IN CLAREMONT PINES



Classic columned Colonial in ultra quiet Claremont Pines. Gracious and formal rooms, chef's kitchen, professionally landscaped level lot, even a widow's walk with bay views. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths.

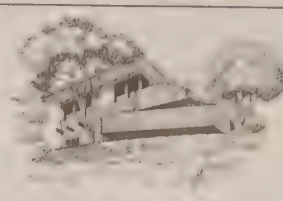
Offered at \$2,190,000

Dee Knowland
www.pacunion.com
www.DeeKnowlandRealty.com

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Designed by Hans Gerson, mid-century modern architect, this four bedroom, two bath home offers fabulous simplicity, privacy, an open floor plan & SF Bay views. A beautiful setting.

Offered at \$849,000



79 Florida Avenue, Berkeley

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GRUBBCO.COM

RUTH FRASSETTO
Office: 510.652.2133/414
rfassetto@grubbco.com



coming soon

Enjoy the updated, eat-in kitchen, expansive adjoining deck with hill and Bay views, and wood-paneled dining room. Level garden play area; three bedrooms; three baths; finished lower level; two-car attached garage; ample storage. Includes architect's rendering for remodel of lower level.

Offered at \$1,295,000



The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

NANCY LEHRKIND
Office: 510.339.0400/246
lehrkind@grubbco.com



A PERFECT BEGINNING!

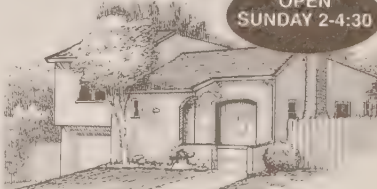
ALAIN PINEL

4634 ALLENDALE

Waiting For A New Owner....

Beautiful Spanish-Mediterranean on Maxwell Park's most coveted street. Gracious living is more than possible with this spacious split-level floor plan. Is there an avid gardener out there? Well, the large backyard offers many possibilities for those with a green thumb. The quiet park is the surprise hidden gem of this neighborhood. This home has it all!

OPEN
SUNDAY 2-4:30



- Two Bedrooms - One Bath
- Formal Dining
- Attached Garage

- Wood-burning Fireplace
- Family Room
- Asking Price \$549,000



MARIA SINCLAIR

OFFICE 510-899-8000 DIRECT 510-899-8015
FAX 510-899-8050
msinclair@apr.com

ALAIN PINEL

Square footage and/or acreage information contained herein has been received from seller, stating reports, appraisals, public records and/or other sources deemed reliable. If you are a listing agent, you have verified this information. If this information is important to you in determining whether to buy or the selling price, you should conduct your own investigation.



Second release of Phase II homes now available!

A brand new lifestyle awaits you at The Beacon. You'll love the convenience of a gourmet Safeway, Borders, Starbucks and Wells Fargo Bank right downstairs. You'll enjoy amenities including an outdoor heated pool, fitness center, clubhouse, dog run and parking for you and your guests. And you'll never get tired of the breathtaking City and Bay views.

Located in South Beach, The Beacon is within a short walk of San Francisco's finest shopping, dining, culture and entertainment. One bedroom homes from the upper \$500,000's, two bedroom homes from the mid \$700,000's, three bedroom homes from the \$900,000's.



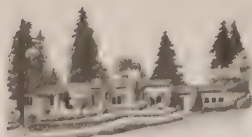
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New Sales Center
now open!



393 HAMPTON ROAD \$3,850,000
Nestled among tall redwoods & impressive estates, this home was designed by Albert Farr & constructed by Alex Cederborg (c. 1935). A once in a lifetime opportunity. Steve Michaelides
191 SANDRINGHAM RD. \$2,600,000
A wonderful traditional home. 5BR/3.5BA. Stunning formal rooms + den, rumpus room & au pair suite. Great patio for entertaining. South Bay views. Helen Buty

PIEDMONT OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



303 HILLSIDE AVE. \$1,695,000
A level contemporary w/an enchanting enclosed front garden & spectacular Bay views. Gracious formal rooms, eat-in kitchen, 3BR & office/den on main floor, 1BR/1BA & rumpus room w/private entrance below. Mindy Scott

239 PARK VIEW AVE.
Piedmont jewel! Lovingly restored Mediterranean architectural details. Light-filled rooms w/charming & hardwood floors. Elegant terrace. Level garden. 3BR/1.5BA.
77 WILDWOOD GRDNS
Tranquil creekside setting. A contemporary w/gleaming hardwood floors & bonus room w/entrance & peek of the Bay.

OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



95 WESTMINSTER DRIVE \$2,175,000
Dramatic & sophisticated Claremont Pines home. Complete with enchanting formal rooms, expansive kitchen w/breakfast room, family room, home office, wet-bar & 3-car garage. Outdoor terrace, gardens & pool. Debbi DiMaggio

5801 BUENA VISTA AVE. \$1,795,000
Exquisite Mediterranean w/many architectural details. French doors to a charming patio. 4BR/3.5BA. Lower level family room w/fireplace opens to a second patio & garden. Bay views. Jill Carrigan

24 N. HILL COURT \$1,750,000
Level-in to an all level home w/sensational panoramic Bay views. Open floor plan, huge wrap-around deck & spa. 5BR/4BA & 3-car garage. Great location close to the Claremont Hotel. Carol Brown

83 CASTLE PARK WAY \$1,485,000
A stunning contemporary w/an open floor plan & space for everyone! 3+BR/3.5BA w/an incredible master suite. Pool, sauna, spa & views on a huge lot! Sandra Vogl

870 SUNNYHILLS RD. \$899,000
A 1930's Crocker Highlands traditional w/3BR/2BA & bonus room below. Beautifully landscaped garden w/deck, lawn & patio. Angela Wei Grubb

452 HILLER DRIVE \$749,500
Elegant & spacious townhouse in immaculate condition. Two bedrooms including master suite plus separate office/den. Susanne Paul

101 COLGETT DRIVE \$749,000
Spacious Crestmont home w/SF Bay View on an oversized lot 3+BR/2BA, hardwood floors, 2-fireplaces, large family room & private back yard. Sherry Benninger

6450 MYSTIC STREET \$745,000
Gorgeous Craftsman in an ideal location near College Ave. shops & BART! 2+BR/2BA. Lovely garden. Updated kitchen. Great built-ins. Susie Schevill

4344 ANDERSON ST. \$719,000
Crisp Redwood Heights tradition in great location. Charming living room/dining room w/lovely hardwood floors. Updated kitchen w/breakfast nook. 3BR + rumpus. Lovely back garden. Dana Cohen

6114 PINWOOD RD. CALL FOR PRICE
Contemporary Montclair 3BR/2.5BA by Scott Cameron. Eat-in kitchen w/outstanding work space. Master suite & family room. Level gardens. Lush landscaping. Chris Cohn

1751 E. 38TH STREET \$599,000
Beautiful 2BR/1BA w/ upgraded kitchen w/eat-in area, formal dining room, living room w/ fireplace, plantation shutters & hardwood floors w/a private back garden. Marlena Lyons/Kurt Buchholz

2907 MONTICELLO AVE.
Charming remodeled bungalow w/designed Chef's kitchen w/granite countertops & appliances opens to living room. Master bedroom to private garden.

4011 39TH AVENUE
An adorable & affordable 2BR/1BA bungalow w/Mediterranean flair. Hardwood floors & architectural details.

260 CALDECOTT #219
A charming Parkwoods condominium w/amenities. This Montclair model features hardwood floors & is conveniently located near restaurants, shops & hiking trails.

2416 PALMETTO DR.
Fabulous 2BR/1BA starter home with beautiful kitchen & hardwood floors. Great location close to transportation.

10 MOSS AVENUE #19
This stylish, light-filled condo is close to BART, Avenue shops and theatre. 2BR/1BA with beautiful covered parking.

BERKELEY - OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30



2887 BUENA VISTA WAY \$2,250,000
BERKELEY. This exceptional home offers maximum privacy & remarkable spaces! 3BR/3BA + attached studio apartment, office family room w/wet bar & expansive decks w/hot tub. Bebe McRae/Paul Templeton

20 HIGHGATE COURT \$1,250,000
Kensington. Spectacular views! Quiet cul-de-sac & sophisticated style w/exceptional finishes! 3BR/2BA, large office, sunroom/workshop, attached 2-car garage. Close to Kensington School. Bebe McRae

36 DRURY LANE \$1,050,000
Stunning Bay & GG views! Sophisticated contemporary retreat on a cul-de-sac! Level-in. Master suite on the main level. 2+BR/3BA. Large view deck, family room, office/nursery. Helene Barkin

2818 WEBSTER ST. \$950,000
Quiet Residential Street in Elmwood. 3+ Bedrooms/2 Baths/Bonus room. Refinished hardwood floors. Excellent storage. Level yard. Garage. 2 Blocks to College Ave. Near UC & BART. Diane Verducci

79 FLORIDA AVENUE \$849,000
Designed by Hans Gerson, mid-century modern architect, this 4BR/2BA home offers fabulous simplicity, privacy, an open floor plan & San Francisco Bay views. Beautiful setting. Ruth Frassetto

1243 MLK JR WAY \$789,000
Charming and very well-located 3BR/1BA Mediterranean. Wonderful chef's kitchen. Formal dining room, gracious living room w/French doors to balcony. Lovely gardens with pond & hot tub. Karen Starr

1180 PARK HILLS RD \$699,000
Beautifully maintained & stylish mid-century modern in a park-like setting adjacent to Tilden Park & Golf Course! 3BR/2BA, French doors to garden. Spacious living room w/fireplace. Susie Schevill

2365 VIRGINIA ST. \$685,000
Sunny & elegant architecturally distinguished 2BR/2BA 2-story condo close to UC, shops & restaurants. Spacious living room w/fireplace, formal dining room, office space & hardwood floors. Tricia Swift

1718 ADDISON STREET
Living room w/fireplace, large formal dining room, built-ins. Remodeled bath & eat-in kitchen. Hardwood floors. Detached office. Lush landscaping. Near BART & urban amenities. Karlynn

1326 4TH STREET
The ultimate live/work loft. Custom architecture. Striking fixtures. Opening skylights. Fabulous chef's kitchen. Pixar designer by Slant Studio! Karlynn

1237 EVELYN AVENUE
Fabulous 1BR/BA starter home w/ + space. East side location. Hardwood floors, garage. Great location. Anne

1239 EVELYN AVENUE
Adorable cottage near Westbrae shops & BART. 1BA, eat-in kitchen, garage. Anne

1235 EVELYN AVENUE
Charming cottage w/1BR/1BA, garage, hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen. Convenient to BART. Anne

SAN LEANDRO, EMERYVILLE & EL CERRITO

OPEN SUNDAY 2 - 4:30

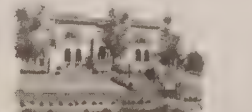


1604 CHABOT TERR. \$659,000
SAN LEANDRO. An entertainer's dream! Lovely remodeled Ranch style home. All level California living w/open floor plan. Dining & living rooms open to landscaped garden. Private cul-de-sac setting. Hope Broderick

1500 PARK AVENUE \$699,000
EMERYVILLE. An amazing loft. Very stylish and hip w/ colors that sizzle. 2BR/2BA, fabulous kitchen w/granite counters. A popular spot close to Pixar with a magical courtyard and two parking spaces. Judith Cain

1383 SUMMIT PARK CT.
EL CERRITO. Custom built residence above the golf course. Very spacious formal rooms. Captivating Bay views. Fine craftsmanship & finishes throughout. Gorgeous! Jennifer

SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT



GRAND ESTATE \$4,989,000
PIEDMONT. The grand entry foyer sets the stage for what unfolds in this exquisite neo-classical inspired home. Spacious rooms fine details. New state-of-the-art kitchen. Library & kitchen opens to an expansive courtyard. Jean Simmons/Anian Petit Tunney

BERKELEY COMPOUND \$4,100,000
BERKELEY. Extraordinary family compound or fantastic investment opportunity! 4 separate residences amid lush gardens & beautiful Bay views, hot tub, sauna & sports court. A world of its own. Bebe McRae

NEW MEDITERRANEAN \$3,750,000
OAKLAND. Magnificent new Mediterranean w/ breathtaking panoramic view. 5BR, elevator, large family room, game room, media room, library, wine cellar & sauna. 3-car garage. Debra J. Dryden

MEDITERRANEAN \$2,300,000
Designed by noted architect W.H. Weeks, as his own residence, this lovely Mediterranean offers grand scale formal rooms, library, parlor, chef's kitchen/family room, 4BR/3BA, bonus rooms and a pool. Linda McClain

VIEW CONTEMPORARY \$1,350,000
BERKELEY. Striking contemporary w/BIG Bay views. Gourmet kitchen overlooks private patio. Master suite w/ Juliet balcony. Living room w/soaring ceilings & fireplace. Terrace & lots of storage. C. Jones/P. Templeton

LOVELY TRADITIONAL \$1,195,000
PIEDMONT. Spacious traditional home in central Piedmont. Gracious formal rooms, updated eat-in kitchen, 3+BR up & rumpus room down. Beautiful gardens. Mindy Scott

BERKELEY CHARM \$895,000
BERKELEY. Charming & spacious brown shingle near North Berkeley shops and U.C. Campus. Large au-pair/guest quarters w/separate entry. 5BR/3BA, 2-car garage & sunny gardens. Bebe McRae

MONTCLAIR \$879,000
OAKLAND. This destination neighborhood is close to Montclair shopping, schools & easy commute options. This lovely home features fine architecture, Bay views, level lawn & garage. 3BR + office. 2BA. Katherine Cooper

HISTORIC DUPLEX \$790,000
BERKELEY. Historic duplex w/stunning panoramic view! Original Walter Steilberg design with 2nd unit addition. Many wonderful architectural details. Located on lower Panoramic Hill. The Ratcliffes

BAY FARM ISLAND
ALAMEDA. Easy living single level 3BR w/updated kitchen & baths. Slate floors w/tile flooring w/carpet in the bedrooms. Landscaping.

TURN OF THE CENTURY
BERKELEY. Enchanting turn-of-century w/ceilings, wainscoting & alluring crown moldings. Large bonus room w/skylights. Lush garden. Near BART. 2BR/1 updated BA.

BELLEVUE-STATEN
OAKLAND. Fabulous & spacious 2BR/2BA w/in art-deco landmark The Bellevue-Statens. Level living w/parquet floors, fireplace & updated kitchen. Elevator.

ALBANY TREE HOUSE
ALBANY. Terrific 2BR/2BA "Tree House" w/hill views. Dramatic LR w/vaulted ceiling. FDR, MBR, moments to El Cerrito Plaza Mall & BART.

KENSINGTON LOT
Spectacular lot w/gorgeous views.
GARDEN DR. LOT
Exceptional Kensington building site w/

SHOCK
PAGE B11
...feel that the house will ap-
...so they're going to build
...way," said Steve Graber,
...of Pan American Mort-
...in Saddle Brook. "Instead of
...in an apartment, instead of
...an inferior house, they were
...to buy the house they wanted"
...being creative loans, he added.
...Nationally, interest-only and ad-
...products made up 63 per-
...of mortgages written in the
...half of 2004, according to
...Mortgage Bankers Association.
...But some of these buyers may
...and they're in over their heads.
...worry is that when the interest-
...feature is done, there's going
...a huge default rate," said
...Wildorrotter, executive vice
...of the Real Estate Mort-
...Network in River Edge, N.J.
...The risk is greater if, as many
...the housing market is a bubble

waiting to burst. Alan Greenspan, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, told Congress in June that interest-only loans were contributing to "froth" in housing prices.
"There's a certain amount of mania in the market," said Keith Gumbinger of HSH Associates, a Pompton Plains, N.J., company that tracks the mortgage market.
If property values deflate, homeowners who turned to creative financing could find themselves owing more on their mortgages than the house is worth, Gumbinger said.
Another concern is that mortgage rates — now near historic lows — may have only one way to go, and that's up. So homeowners could face a big hit when their adjustable loans start adjusting to market rates. Worse yet, the higher rates might hit at the same time homeowners have to start repaying the principal. "You could find a double whammy on your payment," Gumbinger said.
Some homebuyers think that

when that happens, they'll just re-finance. It's not that easy, Gumbinger said: "You might not be able to get a favorable interest rate. You might be able to refinance, but your rate goes up 2 percent."
Others say that if they can't face the higher payments, they'll just sell.
But if a lot of borrowers are in the same circumstance, Gumbinger said, "you might be putting your home on the market when a whole lot of people have to do so as well."
See SHOCK, Page B15

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3 bedrooms and 1 bath, hardwood floors, breakfast nook, fireplace, laundry, your new project can become the perfect home for you and your family. Stay with-in the walls for a cute and charming Mediterranean style or let your imagination soar and create your own masterpiece. There is a large private lot with an oversized detached garage. If you have been waiting for a house in a neighborhood where you can create your own home, this is truly your opportunity.
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Wells Fargo Home Mtg. 925-736-1125 Fees=\$1180 30-yr Fixed call... 30-yr Fxd Jumbo call... 10/1 ARM I/O call... 5/1 ARM I/O call... Local - Purchase - Refi - Inv. Property Call Our Team Today! - 925-736-1125 Jumbo 30 Yr Fxd, 10/1, 5/1 ARM Int Only
Wells Fargo Home Mtg. 866-809-1502 Fees=\$1431 30-yr Fixed call... 30-yr Fxd Jumbo call... 5/1 ARM Jumbo* call... 10/1 ARM Jumbo* call... 100% to 1 ML - Free Pre Approval Credit Lines to 3 ML * Purchase loan* Bank Relationship
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Absolute Mortgage Fund. 888-90-HOMES Fees=\$1359 30-yr Fixed 5.250...0.250 5.310...0.30 30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625...0.000 5.650...0.30 15-yr Fixed 4.875...0.125 5/1 ARM 5.000...0.000 5.600...0.30
AimLoan.com 888-411-4246 Fees=\$2400 30-yr Fixed 5.250...0.250 5.345...0.30 30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625...0.000 5.680...0.30 15-yr Fixed 4.875...0.375 5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625...0.125 5.600...0.30
AmeriSave Mortgage Corp. 877-464-5218 Fees=\$1223 30-yr Fixed 5.625...0.250 5.682...0.30 30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.675...0.000 5.903...0.30 3/1 ARM 4.875...0.000 5.125...0.000 5/1 ARM 5.125...0.000 6.040...0.30
California Mortgage Mart 800-947-4769 Fees=\$1655 30-yr Fixed 5.600...0.000 5.625...0.000 30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.625...0.000 5.660...0.30 15-yr Fixed 5.125...0.000 5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.375...0.000 4.410...0.30
CMG Mortgage Services 800-958-5339 Fees=\$1853 30-yr Fixed 5.125...1.250 5.280...0.30 30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500...1.250 5.638...0.30 3/1 ARM Jumbo 4.625...1.000 4.756...0.30
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Emortgages.com 800-619-4400 Fees=\$1837 30-yr Fixed 5.375...0.250 5.450...0.30 30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...0.000 5.800...0.30 5/1 ARM Jumbo 4.750...0.000 5.330...0.30
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Imperial Mortgage 800-961-2274 Fees=\$1453 30-yr Fixed 5.250...1.000 5.440...0.30 30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500...1.000 5.690...0.30 3/1 ARM I/O 4.250...1.000 5.940...0.30
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Main Line Tavistock Mtge 877-876-3600 Fees=\$1298 30-yr Fixed 5.375...0.000 5.410...0.30 30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.500...0.000 5.540...0.30 20-yr Fixed 5.250...0.000 5.310...0.30 15-yr Fixed 4.875...0.000 4.980...0.30
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626 Fees=\$1875 30-yr Fixed 5.375...1.000 5.554...0.30 30-yr Fxd Jumbo 5.750...1.000 5.993...0.30 15-yr Fixed 5.375...0.800 5.504...0.30 5/1 ARM Jumbo 5.375...0.000 5.485...0.30
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A matter of apples and oranges

Q. I am a widow, 62 years old, and in poor health. I own a condominium that is being rented out. I also own a home where I have lived for over two years. I want to sell both my condo and my house and invest most of the proceeds to buy a duplex. I plan to live in one and rent out the other unit to facilitate property management issues since I will

not gain tax. My wife and I bought a house 15 years ago for \$69,000 and I paid it off completely when my daddy died.

We moved to another house, so it is not our primary residence any longer. We have been renting it and using the funds to put my two children through college, but my cur-

rent tenants want to buy it for close to \$300,000.

Would capital gains eat me up or is there a place to put the money where I wouldn't be taxed to death?

See HAMILTON, Page B20



TOM HAMILTON
Real Estate Q&A

have them both at the same place and will not have to drive around town to maintain the rental unit. Is it possible for me to use all my net gain (capital gain minus my original down payment) from the sale of the condo and some proceeds from my residence to buy this duplex and not incur any tax liability?

A. You have two issues. Your personal residence is subject to one set of rules and the investment

property is subject to another. Your personal residence is subject to a \$250,000 capital gain exclusion. Therefore, you can take the sale proceeds from your personal residence and buy anything else (including the duplex) with those proceeds tax free.

The rental condo is subject to investment property rules. If the new duplex can be purchased for the amount of your existing personal residence, then you can buy it with that sale. If it costs more, you might be able to "exchange" the rental condo price into the half of the condo that you rent. This is, as you can see, fairly complex.

I suggest that you contact an investment advisor familiar with 1031 exchanges to see exactly how you can flow the proceeds from the investment portion of this problem into the other half of your duplex purchase. I believe that you will be able to work this out, but a complete set of information with actual (potential) transaction parameters is necessary.

Don't give up hope, for I believe that your situation can be resolved in a way that will minimize your tax burden. It is just a fairly complex problem that you need to consult with competent tax professionals to fully realize.

Q. I have a question about cap-

open
saturday and sunday

A beautiful & spacious two bedroom, one bathroom (+) Colonial Revival home located on a large corner lot in Central Alameda! Built in 1903 this home features wood floors, period hardware & architectural details. The kitchen was recently updated with newer flooring, appliances and granite countertops. The converted basement features a family room & tiki bar for entertaining. In addition to a laundry & storage area. Not to be missed, the beautifully landscaped backyard with spa, deck and brick patio.

Offered at \$665,000

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Sunny Maxwell Park Charmer with intriguing curb appeal! The inviting living room offers a wood-burning fireplace and leads to a light-filled dining room w/built-ins. 2 spacious bedrooms, ample closet space, tastefully updated bathroom, separate office space & laundry area next to the remodeled kitchen. Hardwood floors, Italian tile and new paint add to the elegance of this home. And don't forget the sunny yard!

\$479,000

For more information, call
Uli Lirosi (510) 910-1443



Don't miss the Weekly Sales in the Auto Section

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Economides and Hill

Open Sunday September 18th 2-5 PM

Platinum Display

Privacy and Versatility
1403 Arch Street in Berkeley
Offered at \$849,000

Prudential
California Realty

Candice Economides and
Candice call 914-2927
Prudential
2095 Rose Ave

BERKELEY HILLS 510.524.9888

REALTY



150 Woodfield, Hercules

Open Sunday, 1:30 - 4:30

Commuter Paradise Community! Pretty home located at end of block in a cozy neighborhood. 5 bdrms, 3 baths - including a spacious master suite. Gracious living rm & dining area, family rm w/brick fireplace & sliding doors to deck, hot tub & gazebo. Kitchen has new gas stove w/convection oven. Shining hwd floors, custom blinds, new roof, new garage door. A wonderful home near hiking trails & HOA pool & clubhouse facilities.

Gay and Kay x51

\$725,000



1400 Queens Rd., Berkeley

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

New listing! Delightful hideaway perched on a great neighborhood, Marston Bay view. Classic bedrooms, 2 baths, move-in condition. East Lawrence Hall and U.C. Berkeley.

Barbara Conheim

524-9888 x28



275 Lake Dr., Kensington

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

New listing! Sunny, spacious, one-level home on a beautiful, large, level lot. Quiet street. Spacious living room, dining area, large kitchen opens to deck and backyard. 3 bdrms, beautifully updated bathroom, close to Tilden Park, public transportation, Kensington shops, and coveted Kensington school.

Maya Trilling

524-9888 x18

\$665,000



556 - 28th St., Richmond N & E

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

Bright, charming 1938 split-level MacGregor 2 bdrms w/coated ceilings. 1 tiled bathroom, half-bath downstairs. Random plank hardwood floors in living rm & formal dining rm. Open off kitchen. 2-car attached garage w/finished house. Lrg. level, 5,000 sq ft landscaped front & back. This home has had only 2 owners in last 67 years.

Joan Brunswick x12



149 Pomona Ave., El Cerrito

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New listing! Gracious ranch-style, 3-bdrm, 2-bath home w/spacious living rm, formal dining rm, large eat-in kitchen & master bdrm suite. On a corner lot, in wonderful condition, in a prized El Cerrito location near Fat Apples just outside the Albany border.

Romney O'Connell

524-9888 x52

\$649,000



3109-B College Ave., Berkeley

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:30

New listing! 1-bedroom condo w/floor-to-ceiling windows, convenient location between El Cerrito and Albany. Spacious bedroom w/wonderful light & generous closet. Eat-in kitchen. Ideal access to campus & transportation. Upstairs park area designated off-street parking.

Arlene Baxter

524-9888 x19



706 Pomona Ave., Albany

Open Sunday, 2:00 - 4:00

New listing! 2-bdrm Spanish-style home with spectacular living room and abundant charm. Interior has beautiful gunwood details, built-ins in formal dining room & hwd floors throughout. This wonderful location is seconds from Memorial Park & Solano Avenue amenities.

Bill and Tracy

524-9888 x33

\$585,000

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TERE LEE, CRS
Team Leader
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NEW LISTING
Open Sat. & Sun 9/17-9/18 1-4pm
1836 HARVARD DR.
ALAMEDA
4BD/3BA, Approx. 2045sf

NEW LISTING
Open Sat. & Sun 9/17-9/18 1-4pm
1524 RICHMOND ST.
EL CERRITO
3BD/1BA Close to BART & transportation. New central heating system. Extra large lot. \$575,000

SAN LORENZO
15950 VIA CONEJO
3BD/1BA - Charming home in the hills. Large rear yard with beautiful trees. Fence in the living rm, bonus rm/office + freshly painted. Asking Price: \$499,000

SAN LEANDRO
2519 ALLEON PLACE
3 BD/2.5 BA. At Marina Seagate, near Monarch Bay Golf Course, pool, & tennis. Asking Price: \$510,000

172 OAKES BLVD.
2+BD/1BA. Approx. 1700sf Craftsman-style level home on an oversized lot. Asking Price: \$619,000

14453 FLAGSHIP ST.
at Marina Seagate
Attached 2-car garage, vaulted ceilings, upgrades, immaculate, bright & sunny. \$530,000

14443 KINGS CT.
3 BD/1.5 BA. Two story townhouse at P. Crest - many upgrades, newer carpet & saunas in the complex. \$388,000

14008 Outrigger Dr. • SOLD
14164 Outrigger Dr. • SOLD

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Shock

FROM PAGE B13

which would suppress prices. Many of these buyers would be better off renting, Gumbinger said. But if they do take creative loans, he advises that they set aside some of their extra cash flow every month in preparation for the day when payments will rise. "At some point, the higher payment will come due," he said.

But he suspects many homebuyers are not doing this. Instead, the money freed up by lower mortgage payments is going toward cars and vacations.

In fact, Gumbinger and others say many buyers may not really understand the creative mortgages they're getting. Getting a mortgage is a lot more complicated than 20 years ago, when loans came in just a few flavors: fixed or adjustable, 15-year or 30-year. Now, faced with

an array of choices, many buyers' "eyes glaze over," Gumbinger said. Paradoxically, creative mortgages are becoming more popular at a time when traditional fixed-rate mortgages are available at bargain rates — under 6 percent. Looking in a rate like that would mean that the lender, not the homeowner, would carry all of the risk of rising rates for three decades.

See SHOCK, Page B16

Two Homes for the Price of One!

Don't miss my new listing!



Richard Morrison
(510) 915-0702

Open Sunday, 2-4:30
Hosted by
Stina Charles-Harris
(510) 282-6201

marvin
gardens

653-655 65th Street, Oakland
\$799,000

Two charming homes on one lot. Circa 1920s. Front House: 2 BR/2BA, fireplace, formal dining room, hardwood floors. Back House: 2BR/1BA, plus room, vaulted ceiling. Great separation, both houses have their own yards.

open sunday

Open Sunday 2-4:30. Spectacular views! Quiet cul-de-sac and sophisticated style with exceptional finishes! Three bedrooms, two baths, large office/family room, sun room/workshop, attached two car garage. Close to covered Kensington school and shops.
Offered at \$1,250,000



20 Highgate Court
Kensington

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Office: 510.652.2133/415
bmcrac@grubbco.com

open sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A charming Parkwoods condominium with modern amenities & stylish architecture. This Montclair model features two bedrooms, two full baths, an excellent kitchen, hardwood floors and is conveniently located close to restaurants, shopping and hiking trails.

Offered at \$499,000

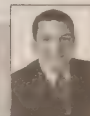


260 Caldecott Lane #124, Oakland

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

ADAM BETTA

Office: 510.339.0400/251
abetta@grubbco.com



WELLS & BENNETT REALTORS

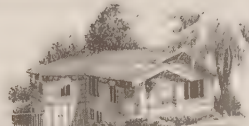
1451 LEIMERT BLVD., OAKLAND
(510) 531-7000
www.wellsandbennett.com

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00PM – 4:30PM



175 VILLANOVA DRIVE \$1,575,000
Montclair. Stunning level-in 4 year old Mediterranean with great yard and excellent floorplan. 3BD, 3 1/2BA plus home office and playroom. 3 fireplaces, hand-plastered walls and rich wood details.

Mary Neuberger 531-7000 x251



5147 CAMDEN STREET \$629,000
Maxwell Park. Unique opportunity on approximately 1/4 acre with park-like setting. Spacious 3BD/1.5BA with sunroom, living and dining room with maple hardwood floors. Large master bedroom, huge lower level with separate entrance and three plus bonus rooms—great for home business, artist/music studio, family room and more. Potential to build 2nd unit on this large double lot.

Anne Manley 531-7000 x277



1947 TIFFIN ROAD \$589,000
Upper Dimond. This sweet, 1937 home is admired by neighbors and enjoyed by birds who nest in its rambling rose arbor. A spacious 2BD/2BA on a gorgeous, private, large corner lot. Formal dining room, lovely living room with fireplace, random plank oak floors, attic for expansion possibilities.

Don Dunning 531-7000 x239



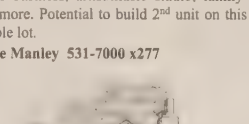
2202 DAMUTH #4 \$439,000
Dimond. 2BD/2BA Spacious unit with many upgrades. Lovely serene setting with a large deck. Many closets, large living room with fireplace.

Teri L. Lester 531-7000 x262



5132 COCHRANE AVENUE \$1,625,000
Rockridge, Upper. Sophisticated home with extra large master suite. Adjoining sitting room could be 4th bedroom, 2.5BA, extensive maple cabinets in kitchen which overlooks breakfast nook and family room, formal dining room with wet bar open to living room, home theater, air conditioning, 2 car garage, hot tub, pretty hill views. Over 3500 sq. ft.

Chris Christensen 531-7000 x242



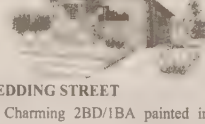
822 KEY ROUTE \$595,000
Albany. You must see this delightful 2BD/2BA with lovely architectural details! Corner fireplace, updated kitchen, hardwood floors and side porch entry. Front flower garden, rear yard with detached office with built-ins and skylight

Antoine Pirson 531-7000 x270



4419 CAMDEN STREET \$549,000
Maxwell Park. Spacious mid-century home on quiet cul-de-sac! 3BD/1.5BA with mstr suite, large living room with frpl and view, gorgeous hardwood floors, large "retro" eat-in kitchen, 2-car garage, great patio and terraced gardens.

Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228



3514 REDDING STREET \$439,000
Laurel. Charming 2BD/1BA painted in designer colors, gorgeous refinished hardwood floors, living and dining rooms with built-ins, large kitchen and breakfast room with new linoleum, sunny level yard, close to great shopping

Kate Phillips 531-7000 x228



709 PALOMA AVENUE \$749,000
Crocker Highlands. Welcome to this beautifully restored and updated 3BD/1+BA Colonial with Cup Cod styling. Spacious living room with fireplace, formal dining room, light-filled kitchen. Enchanted garden with patio area. Must see!

Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292



1600 MILVIA STREET \$675,000
North Berkeley. Charming 3BD/2.5BA split level Victorian style Farmhouse. Vaulted ceilings with dining room overlooking private deck with hot tub, eat-in kitchen, living room on a corner lot in Berkeley's Gourmet Ghetto.

Beth DeAtley 531-7006 x234

LAND FOR SALE

ALTURA PLACE \$465,000
New listing. 2.34 Acres nearly all useable. Utilities on site, S.F. and Bay view, 2 out buildings, private driveway.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

LINCOLN \$425,000
S.F. Bay view lot. 5900 sq. ft., down slope, utilities in street

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

HILLER HIGHLANDS LOT \$395,000
Cha-Ching \$. Top location near Hiller and Grizzly Blvd. Graded lot, utilities in street.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MENDOCINO IN OAKLAND \$348,000
Over 12,000 sq. ft., gentle down slope. Soil report and topo available. Utilities present.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

SHORELINE HWY \$195,000
Marin, Mill Valley. 13,458 sq. ft. down slope. Beautiful Tamalpais setting. Home drawings available.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

MONTCLAIR UP SLOPE \$179,000
Utilities present. Zoned SFR. Receives excellent sun. Area of expensive newly built homes.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

INCOME PROPERTIES

GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY \$1,300,000
Temescal District. 3 Buildings on 1 lot! 2 Charming 3BD/1BA houses along with a very quaint triplex in rear with a jr. 1BD and 2 full 1BD on an expansive lot with a gorgeous little garden.

Beth DeAtley 531-7006 x234

FIVE UNITS/EXCELLENT LOCAL \$938,000
Glenview. Don't miss this! Great rents, two vacant units, ready to be leased. Pest report \$10K. Parking, laundry room, common spa.

Carol Robbiano 531-7000 x292

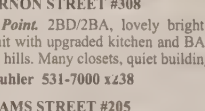
DOWNTOWN FOUR PLEX \$825,000
Oakland. Mix use, commercially zoned. Excellent local for live work. Needs finishing touches. Across from public parking lot. Victorian charm. Delivered vacant.

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235



201 4TH STREET #302 \$395,000
Jack London Square. This chic 1BD/1BA end-unit in Oakland's premier condo conversion of the historic old Safeway Building features an exquisite kitchen comprised of granite counters, maple cabinets and stainless steel appliances, 1 secure pkg spot, a community roof deck and work-out facility.

Jeff Hilgert 531-7000 x214



330 VERNON STREET #308 \$389,000
Adams Point. 2BD/2BA, lovely bright and light filled unit with upgraded kitchen and BA. Views of Bay and hills. Many closets, quiet building, pool.

Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

303 ADAMS STREET #205 \$335,000
Adams Point. 1BD/1BA, large unit over 900 sq. ft.. Deck access from both living room and bedroom. Oversized BD with many closets, upgraded kitchen with granite and new lighting.

Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

BY APPOINTMENT

ONE OF A KIND \$469,000
Adams Point. 2BD/2BA, totally renovated and remodeled. Lovely laminate tile floors, new appliances and all new BA fixtures i.e., tub sink etc.

Patsy Buhler 531-7000 x238

SUPER CHARMING BUNGALOW \$415,000
Fruitvale. 2BD/1BA, hardwood floors. Living room with frpl., modern kitchen with nook. Basement, laundry garage, and wonderful patio. Must See!

Frank Hennefer 531-7000 x235

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Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section. The first place to look when looking for a new home.

Shock

FROM PAGE B15

"If they're going to be in that house for 30 years, it's a great opportunity to lock in a fixed rate," said Duncan, the Mortgage Bankers Association economist.

But for buyers like Defonte and Olin, who expect to move in a few years, Duncan said: "Why borrow money over 30 years if you can save half a percentage point on an adjustable loan?"

"Most people refinance or sell after five to seven years," said Alex

Giassa, a mortgage consultant with First Interstate Financial Corp. in Paramus, N.J.

And even in a traditional loan, the early payments go mostly toward interest, not principal. So home buyers with traditional loans aren't building equity much more rapidly than those with interest-only loans, mortgage lenders point out.

Buyers who are considered good candidates for interest-only loans include newly graduated doctors or lawyers, who have modest incomes but good prospects; or couples in which one spouse is staying home with the kids but ex-

pects to return to work in a few years. By the time the payments jump, it's a good bet these households will have higher incomes.

Homeowners who get a major part of their salaries as bonuses also sometimes use these loans. They enjoy smaller payments every month, then use the bonus money to pay down the principal once a year.

The interest-only loans also could work for homeowners who, rather than sink every penny into their monthly mortgage payments, want to free up money for saving or investing.

The mortgage lenders interviewed all said they try to protect buyers from the risks of creative loans by making sure they understand the loans and that the loans are suited for them.

Wilderotter says he likes 10-year interest-only loans, which give more time for salaries and home values to grow before the principal must be repaid.

"Time tends to cure a lot of issues," he said.

Duncan summed it up: "Your decision on your mortgage should always be a part of your overall financial planning."

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EL CERRITO



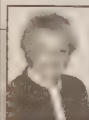
944 Avis Lane
Unfurnished, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, an open floor plan, dining room, kitchen, and a large deck. Off-street parking. \$927,000.
Carl Schober Old Time Real Estate (510) 734-2000

50 Bellevue Avenue
Piedmont



A neo-classical masterpiece in central Piedmont. Experience the stately grandeur with beautiful period detail and classic lines! An exquisite state-of-the-art kitchen and a sweeping staircase are enchanting, as well as the glorious tree-lined street location.

Offered at \$4,989,000



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NEW LISTING...



1490 SONOMA AVENUE
ALBANY
\$699,000

Charming 3 bedroom home surrounded by a romantic garden. Formal rooms, fabulous, bright, updated kitchen, hardwood floors.



Alexis Greenberg
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www.berkeleyhomes.com

marvin gardens

905 Euclid Avenue ♦ Berkeley

Step into this sunlit Traditional and experience its beauty and serenity. Featuring 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths and terrific light, it has an airy living room with partial Bay views plus a formal dining room and separate breakfast area. The terraced backyard showcases the expansive Bay & City views, redwood & fruit trees and generous deck. In the Hills near U.C. and Tilden Park. Offered at \$725,000



Suzanne Baum
510.559.2907

Open Sunday 2:00 - 4:30
September 18th & 25th

marvin gardens

2309 Cedar Street ♦ El Cerrito

Sophisticated Yet Adorable. Looking for the perfect place to call home? This sweet El Cerrito hills home has it all. Great light and an open floor plan, 3 BRs & 2 updated baths, updated kitchen with tile counters and high-end appliances, formal dining room with bay window, French doors to a large deck. Pack your bags and move right in! Offered at \$585,000



Open Sunday 2:00 - 4:30 September 18th & 25th



Ron Eggen
510.298.2000



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510.559.2900

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Bob Rana



Zachary Grant



Rhoda Pae



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Open Homes



Berkeley \$1,300,000
Gracious, grand Beaux Arts. 6 BRs, 3.5 baths, large elegant living room w/superb carved fireplace, study, arched windows, beautiful stairs, huge rumpus room, wonderful views, 6 oaks, more!

1958 Thousand Oaks Blvd.
Merrilyn Rhodes
Open Sun 2-4
524-0800



Berkeley \$995,000
Dramatic home built around a courtyard. Discover soaring ceilings, quiet patios and lovely gardens. 4 bedroom, 2.5 baths, family room and sweet office

5 Woodmont Court
Celia Concus
Open 2-5
524-0800



Oakmore \$649,000
A wonderfully light & beautifully appointed "Art Deco" traditional w/generously proportioned rooms a tastefully remodeled kitchen, 2 full baths & a lush garden setting

1825 Carter St.
Visit this listing @ www.marvingardens.com Kathie Berg
Open Sun 2-4



Kensington \$898,000
Beautiful, spacious 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath view home next to wooded park. Hardwood floors, wall-to-wall carpeting, fireplace, charming deck

474 Beloit Ave.
Phyllis Hewett
Open Sun 2-4
524-0800



Oakland \$825,000
Elegant duplex. Two beautiful 2BR, 1 bath units with Old World charm on the border of Piedmont Upper and lower level units with 3,400-sq. ft. of total living space. Each unit w/fireplace and garage.

955-957 Scott St.
Darrell Hoh
Open Sun 2-4
524-0800



Oakland \$799,000
Two for the price of one! Two charming homes on one lot, circa 1920's. Front house: 2BR/2BA, fireplace, formal dr. hrdwd. flrs., kitchen w/nook. Back: 2BR, 1BA, plus room, vaulted ceiling. Both have own yards.

653-655 65th St.
Richard Morrison
Open Sun 2-4:30
527-2700x32



El Cerrito \$799,000
Fabulous 3BR, 3 bath home. Office/den, gorgeous kitchen, plank floors & crown moldings. Formal dining room w/built-ins, spacious master suite w/romantic fireplace & Jacuzzi. Private backyard

2517 Tamalpais Ave.
Nic Tang
Open Sun 2-5
527-9111



El Cerrito \$775,000
Handsome, ranch-style home in park-like setting on cul-de-sac. With Bay and City views, it is one-level living at its best. 3+BRs. 2 baths, huge family room, updated kitchen & baths

8740 Don Carol Dr.
Todd Hodson & Ron Egberman
Open Sun 2-4:30
527-9111



El Cerrito \$685,000
Bay views from well-maintained home in desirable Mira Vista. 3BRs, 2.5 baths, updated kitchen w/cherrywood cabinets, master suite, hardwood floors, solar & radiant heat. Big deck, workshop.

2305 Gloria St.
Te Everson
Open Sun 2-4
527-9111



Upper Rockridge \$725,000
Mid-century traditional, circa 1952. Original architectural features, beam ceilings, formal rooms, random plank hrdwd. flrs., floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking private garden. 3BR/2BA, rumpus room

351 Florence Ave.
kathieberg.com
Open Sun 2-4:30



Albany \$699,000
Surrounded by a romantic garden! 3 BR/1BA w/charming period details fireplace, refin. hrdwd floors, bright, updated eat-in kitchen w/fab appliances. Close to Marin School

1490 Sonoma Ave.
Alexis Greenberg
Open Sun 2-4
381-3232



Berkeley \$725,000
Beautiful 3+ BR, 2 bath home Living room w/partial views, formal dining room, separate breakfast area. Terraced backyard w/expansive Bay views, redwood & fruit trees, deck. Nr UC & Tilden Park

905 Euclid Ave.
Suzanne Haum
Open Sun 2-4:30
527-9111



Albany \$689,000
Circa 1920 Bungalow. Craftsman details include fireplace, built-ins, formal rooms, beautiful hardwood floors. Bright kitchen w/bamboo floors. 3BR/1BA. Private landscaped yard. Huge detached workshop/studio

819 Curtis
Richard Morrison
Open Sun 2-5
527-2700x32



Albany \$650,000
Coming Soon... 742 Jackson St. Spacious Albany home. 3 large bedrooms. 1 1/2 baths, plus 45'x20' extra room, hardwood floors. Near schools, shopping, transportation

Richard Morrison
527-2700x32



Albany \$635,000
Lovely MacGregor w/wonderfully separated living areas. 1+BR, 1 bath downstairs, 1BR, 1 bath upstairs, plus room connecting, perfect for office/3rd BR. 2 living rooms. Landscaped w/pools, deck, patio.

1116 Key Route Blvd.
Mary Gray & Mykah Larkins
Open Sun 2-4
527-9111



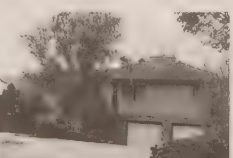
Berkeley \$599,000
Beautiful Elmwood Home (freestanding condo.) Completely remodeled 4BR/2BA. Huge eat-in kitchen, refinished hrdwd flrs, 2 garage spaces+1 outside space. Must be seen!

2734 College Ave.
David Ratoosh
Open Sun 2-4
527-2700x44



El Cerrito \$595,000
Wonderful street close to all services including Plaza BART. Three BRs, 2 baths, detached large garage, huge bonus room. Beautiful hardwood, lovely carved fireplace and more

216 Ashbury Ave.
Mary Gray & Mykah Larkins
Open Sun 2-4
527-9111



Richmond View \$595,000
Over 2,400 sq. ft. with 3BRs, 2 baths on upper level & full in-law downstairs with separate entrance. Freshly painted interior and exterior, polished hardwood floors. 7,000 sq. ft. landscaped lot.

635 Amador St.
Darrell Hoh
Open Sun 2-4



El Cerrito \$585,000
Sophisticated yet adorable home. Great light and an open floor plan, updated kitchen with tile counters & high-end appliances, 3BRs, 2 updated baths, formal dining room w/ray window, large deck

2309 Cedar St.
Todd Hodson & Ron Egberman
Open Sun 2-4:30
524-0800



Pinole \$539,000
Beautifully maintained 3BR/2BA w/2 2-car garages, & plus room for office. Spacious & charming home, professionally landscaped lot, great area of Pinole Valles

2157 Blue Jay Circle
Juliana Wymborg
Open Sun 2-4
527-2700x31



Berkeley \$525,000
Light-filled Bungalow! 2 BR/1BA, hardwood floors & a beautifully landscaped yard. New roof & new foundation. On a quiet street in a great location, a short walk to Café Trieste!

1201 Blake Street
Meridee Carter
Open Sun 1-5
510-507-0243



Richmond \$521,000
Adorable 3+BR/2 bath home. Spacious living/dining room, family room opens to landscaped backyard. Refinished hardwood floors, dual-pane windows. Updated baths & kitchen; new appliances.

4353 Nelson Dr.
Olga Stepanyan
Open Sun 2-4
527-9111



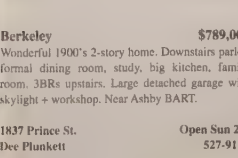
El Cerrito \$489,000
Fantastic 2BR, 1 bath home on large level lot. Large picture windows, fireplace, hardwood floors, new carpet, fresh paint, detached office/bonus room. 2-car garage. Convenient to shops, transport.

1333 Scott St.
Melissa Eizenberg
Open Sun 2-4
524-0800



El Cerrito \$429,000
Cute 1940's bungalow with two bedrooms, one bath and a beautiful fireplace. Very close to Ranch 99, El Cerrito Plaza, and BART. Features newer roof and eat-in kitchen.

3019 Carlson Blvd.
Joan Underwood
Open Sun 2-4
527-9111



Berkeley \$789,000
Wonderful 1900's 2-story home. Downstairs parlor, formal dining room, study, big kitchen, family room. 3BRs upstairs. Large detached garage with skylight + workshop. Near Ashby BART.

1837 Prince St.
Dee Plunkett
Open Sun 2-4
527-9111



El Cerrito \$549,900
Well-maintained 2BR, 1 bath home. Landscaped garden, spacious living room with fireplace, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen w/upgraded stainless steel appliances, newer washer & dryer.

324 Ashbury Ave.
Diana Mendler
Open Sun 2-4
527-9111



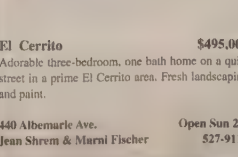
Richmond Annex \$549,000
Spacious, duplex-like home plus flat. Top: 2+4+BRs. 1 bath plus enclosed wrap-around porch. Downstairs: 2 BRs, 1 bath, large living room. Not modern but well looked after. Quiet neighborhood. "As-Is."

5930 Orchard Ave.
Joan Underwood
Open Sun 2-4
527-9111



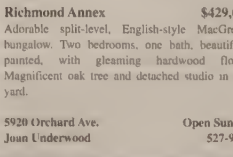
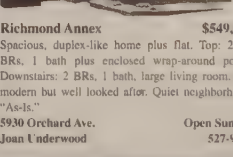
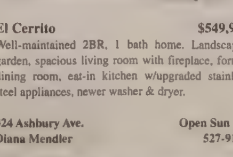
San Pablo \$449,000
Great "Thru Hills" location! Sunny and spacious 3-bedroom, 1-bath home on large lot features a freshly painted interior, some hardwood floors, eat-in kitchen and attached garage. Affordably priced.

2556 O'Harte Rd.
Mary Lou Loomis
Open Sun 2-4
527-9111



El Cerrito \$495,000
Adorable three-bedroom, one bath home on a quiet street in a prime El Cerrito area. Fresh landscaping and paint.

440 Albemarle Ave.
Jean Shrem & Marni Fischer
Open Sun 2-4
527-9111



Richmond Annex \$429,000
Adorable split-level, English-style MacGregor bungalow. Two bedrooms, one bath, beautifully painted, with gleaming hardwood floors. Magnificent oak tree and detached studio in rear yard.

5920 Orchard Ave.
Joan Underwood
Open Sun 2-4
527-9111

1577 Solano Avenue
Berkeley CA 94707
(510) 527-2700

7502 Fairmount Avenue
El Cerrito CA 94530
(510) 527-9111

283 Arlington Avenue,
Kensington CA 94707
(510) 524.0800

W Richmond Avenue,
Richmond CA 94801
(510) 231.1640

For more information about these properties visit www.marvingardens.com

Reid

FROM PAGE B10

Hurricane Help

The National Association of Realtors made \$50,000 donations to associations in Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi last week. These were the three states hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina. NAR announced a contribution of \$1 million for emergency relief and requests donations from Realtors and the public to build the fund. Hundreds of thou-

sands have lost their homes in this disaster. Every penny raised goes to aid the victims. Contributions can be made online at the secure website www.realtor.org/relief.

Free Classes

How To. Learn how much home you can afford, how to qualify for a loan and why you need a Realtor, at "Buying Your First Home". The free seminar is 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 1 at the Homewood Suites in Oakland. Each attendee receives a free credit analysis. Make a reservation with

presenters from "Your Home Team Advantage" (a group of professionals from mortgage, title and Gallagher & Lindsey Realtors) by visiting GallagherAndLindsey.com or calling 510-865-4192 ext. 300.

First Time. Loan Consultant George Johnson of GB Johnson Financial Services, offers a free first time buyer informational workshop. Featured topics are zero percent down payment, FHA and conventional loans. Johnson will offer facts affordable properties. For information on future workshops contact

Johnson at www.gbjohnson.com.

Safety Tips

PG&E offers many home safety tips and emergency preparedness. You'll find checklists and other useful information. Have the kids check out the safety games on the site to learn and have fun. Go visit at PGE.com/safety.

FUND-RAISER

The Alameda Association of Realtors plans a "Funky Formal", Oct. 1. Wear your funkier outfit. Think Bridesmaids dresses and leisure suits. The formal will include dinner and dancing to the sounds of "The Soul Starz". A fund-raising raffle and

silent auction are needed to benefit the On Wheels. Sponsor Advertising opportunities. Call for tickets at 510-339-0400.

See REID

open
sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. A 1930's Crocker Highlands traditional with three bedrooms, two baths and a bonus room below. Beautifully landscaped garden with deck, lawn and patio area.

Offered at \$899,000



870 Sunnyhills Road
Oakland

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

ANGELA WEI GRUBB
Office: 510.339.0400/202
simmonsawgrubb



Lillie Braudy is proud to present:



6602 Stockton Avenue,
El Cerrito



"Your profits will bloom with Lillie"

Gorgeous Remodel

Three bedrooms (Master Suite) two baths. Hardwood floors. Wood burning fireplace. Redwood deck. Chef's kitchen-Twinerline Marble countertops. Brand new "top drawer" appliances and custom kitchen cabinetry. Laundry area. All double paneled windows for your comfort. One-demand, water heater. This lovely home sits on a corner lot with a spacious yard boasting fruit trees, lawn, and a charming Wishing Well. Plus a separate studio retreat. Walk to BART and the Plaza.

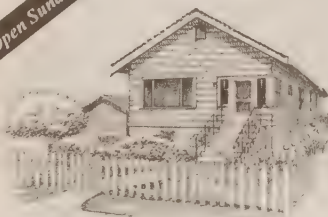
OPEN SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 18TH
1:00pm-4:00pm Staged by Debbie Soto

LILLIE BRAUDY
Fine Homes Specialist
510.644.5262
lillie@braudy.com
www.braudy.com



Wonderful Albany Opportunity

Open Sunday



This classic 2BD/1BA bungalow on a large 5000 SF lot is just waiting for a tasteful renovation. Large sunny yard, heritage roses & Albany Schools. A great find and very affordable at just \$429,000.

Heidi Abramson
510/757-7671
Heidi@Northbrae.com



Northbrae
Real Estate

1600 Hopkins Street, Berkeley 94707 — 510/526-4336

Gallagher
& Lindsey
REALTORS*

1322 E 27th Street - Oakland - \$495,000

- 3 Bedrooms/1 Bath ♦ LR With Bay Windows
- ♦ Dining Room With Decorative Fireplace
- ♦ Extra Lg Eat-In Kitchen ♦ Redwood Deck
- ♦ Large Back Yard ♦ Beautiful Landscaping
- ♦ Artist Studio In Basement

"This Is A Must See 1910 Bungalow In Move-In Condition!"

Dobro Goodale
REALTOR*

510-748-1127 DobroG@gallagherandlindsey.com

4022 PATTERSON AVENUE, OAKLAND



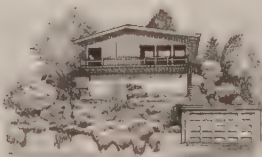
Laurel Heights

Wonderful 2 bedroom, 1 bath home with hardwood floors, remodeled kitchen, laundry room or office space downstairs along with plenty of storage. Large backyard with room to add on. A settled neighborly neighborhood of well maintained homes near schools, local cafes & restaurants.

Ellen Horton • Century 21 Anchor Real Estate • (510) 773-6154
2575 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland, 94602 • hortone2@aol.com

coming
soon

COMING SOON. Rich in character, think cool & sophisticated and truly ultra inviting. Situated on a private cul-de-sac in coveted Kensington neighborhood. 3BR/2+BA. Beamed ceilings, open floor plan and lots of glass to enjoy the beautiful SF views. Gorgeous state-of-the-art kitchen-sub-zero, 6-burner range- top of the line everything! Cherry cabinets & granite counters. Dining deck off kitchen & lovely garden. A very special property!
Price Upon Request



25 Highgate Ct., Kensington

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

RUTH FRASSETTO
Office: 510.652.2133/414
rfrassetto@grubbco.com

sold
sold

RECENTLY SOLD. This charming two plus bedroom, one bath Tudor sold well over the asking price with multiple offers in just 14 days. Exceptional marketing, handsome staging and effective pricing set the stage for this successful sale.

Originally offered at \$619,000
Represented the seller



4151 Lyman Road, Oakland

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

CAROL BROWN
Office: 510.339.0400/269
cbrown@grubbco.com

open
sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Enjoy the beautiful park-like setting with private waterfall. This home has tremendous privacy, a charming front patio and peaceful back deck. The flexible floorplan includes three bedrooms, a large rumpus room and an additional room for an office or den.

Price Upon Request



109 St. James Avenue
Piedmont

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

MINDY SCOTT
Office: 510.339.0400/215
scott@grubbco.com

AndrewAndDavid.com

Both open for the first time Sat & S

Andrew Raskopf
205-3575

David Gundemari
205-4369

Kane & Associates

1516Fifth.com
Lovely 4BR, 2BA Queen Anne w/ den,
formal dining, eat-in kitchen, full basement!
\$698,000

1522Lincoln.com
Duplex: Luxurious 3+BR, 2BA
1BA income unit & more!
\$828,000

open
sunday

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Located in Glenview, this two bedroom, one bath home has been updated throughout. Wonderful eat-in kitchen, formal dining room, living room with fireplace, hardwood floors, plantation shutters and a private back garden with hot tub.

Offered at \$599,000

1751 East 38th Street
Oakland



MARLENA LYONS
510.339.0400/355
mlyons@grubbco.com

The GRUBB Co.
REALTORS
GRUBBCO.COM

KURT BUCHHOLTZ
510.339.0400/222
buchholtz@grubbco.com

94 Bayo Vista Avenue, Unit 205

Bright, Updated Condo in Small Building
Blocks from Piedmont Ave.



- 1 bedroom/1 bath
 - 753 square feet.
 - Storage & updates galore.
- A rare opportunity to own one of only 19 units in this meticulously maintained building a short stroll from Piedmont Avenue dining & shopping. Creative financing available.

Tara-Nicholle Nelson, Esq.
Broker & CEO
510.261.1188
510.910.6715

Open by Appointment



1835 & 1835 1/2 San Antonio Ave.
Offered Price \$955,000

Colonial Revival Style DUPLEX
Alameda's Gold Coast Neighborhood
Bldg Sq. 3,028—Lot Sq. 4,444

Open House Sunday 9/18 from 4-6pm

Fantastic owner occupied Duplex with Residential Income/In-law opportunity. Convert back to a Spacious Single Family Home. Well desired neighborhood and location. Distance to nearby schools. Interior stairway access to a sun-filled, unfinished yard with a private hot tub. A Must See Home!

LISA LAWLEY, BROKER ASSOCIATE
510.865.2800 direct ~ email: Lisa@LisaLawley.net
www.LisaLawley.net



Reid

REID PAGE B18

TWO DAY BREAKFAST

Oakland Realtors are invited to the 2nd Annual Tour Day Breakfast. The breakfast is 8:45, Thursday, Sept. 15 at the OAR Building. Bring marketing flyers and an appetite. Networking more - sell more. Your tour guides are **Ramadan Aziz** of First American Title and **Bethany Berry** of First American Home Warranty. Call 510-339-1230.

Open Sunday

Open SUNDAY 2-4:30. The time is now! You can purchase this adorable and affordable two bedroom, one bath bungalow with a Mediterranean flair featuring hardwood floors and charming architectural details. Offered at \$549,000

The GRUBB Co.
GRUBBCO.COM

MAVIS DELACROIX
339.0400/205
delacroix@grubbco.com



STAGING

You can earn an Accredited Staging Professional Designation with Master Trainer Barb Schwarz. Schwarz is the creator of Staging, a process used to help prepare a home for sale. Upcoming classes are in Berkeley and Concord. The two-day training includes classroom instruction and an on-site Home Staging field trip. Ask about DRE credits. Call 800-392-7161.

PMN

The Women's Council of Realtors offers a designation designed to focus on the most current topics

driving the marketplace. It provides real-world tools and skills to today's practitioners. The Performance Management Network (PMN) designation replaces and updates WCR's LTG designation. It is earned through courses in negotiation, networking and referrals. It also includes organizational and personal performance management and cultural differences. Special exemptions are in place for LTG designees. Get course information at designation@wcr.org.

TIDBITS

■ Maureen Kennedy with Pru-

dential California in Piedmont just completed training at the Institute for Luxury Home Marketing in Dallas. Kennedy is working toward earning a Certified Luxury Home Marketing Specialist designation. For more information contact her at 510-290-8535.

■ This columnist is now officially an author. My first book, CLUE-

LESS: Real Solutions For Men Who Don't Get It And The Women Who Love Them by **Bobbie Reid** was released yesterday, Sept. 1. The publisher is New Horizon Press. Although the book is not about real estate, you might find some intriguing insights and clues into the man/woman mystery. Get order information at www.clueless-queries.com. Watch this column for book signing alerts.

TELL ME

Tell me about it! Fund-raisers, meetings, workshops, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company). Deadline is two weeks before the event. Send an e-mail to bobbierid@mindspring.com.

www.HomesByHeidi.com



5747 Buena Vista Avenue
\$1,898,000

Prudential
California Realty

Open Sunday 2-4:30

Ideal, level-in 5+ bedroom/3.5 bath Traditional, 4200 SF. Home in prestigious neighborhood. The style and grace harken to an era of comfortable elegance. The Grand Master suite provides a peaceful retreat with sitting area and view balcony. An eat-in-kitchen family room combo, large, formal dining and rumpus room are but a few of the many amenities of this wonderful residence.

Heidi Marchesotti
Fine Homes Specialist
#1 Producer 2004
(510) 387-7865 Cell
(510) 869-4243 Voice Mail



OPEN HOMES 9/18 2-4PM

851 COLUSA AVENUE
THOUSAND OAKS, BERKELEY



2 Bedrooms / 2 Baths
Spectacular Remodel is in Sparkling Condition! Kitchen w/ Granite Counters & Tile Floors that open to a Family/Dining Room, 2 New Full Bedrooms w/ Stone Floors, a Master Suite, Rebuilt Fireplace, Refinished Floors, Fresh Paint Inside & Out, Seismic Upgrades.
OFFERED AT \$789,000

2568 VIRGINIA AVENUE
NORTH BERKELEY



2 Bedrooms / 1.5 Baths
Contemporary End Unit is Bright, Sunny & Gorgeous Inside!
2 Large Skylights, Solarium, High Ceilings, Private Balcony, & New Carpet.
3 Blocks to UC, minutes to the Gourmet Ghetto & BART!
OFFERED AT \$545,000

5463 BROADWAY
ROCKRIDGE OAKLAND



2+ Bedrooms / 1 Bath
This Stunning Rockridge Craftsman is Nearly 1,300 Sq. Ft. and features a livable Sun Room! Formal Dining Room w/ Built Ins, Living Room w/ FP. Aspiring chefs will delight in the huge eat-in kitchen. Wood Floors, Authentic Linoleum Flooring in Kitchen, a Tiled Bathroom & Warm Colors.
OFFERED AT \$699,000

MAISONNOUVEAU.COM

39 DEL MAR AVENUE
BERKELEY HILLS



4 Bedrooms / 2 Baths
This Berkeley Hills Home is Nestled in the Trees. Perfect for Sipping your Morning Coffee in this Private, Quiet, Retreat Like House. An Open Living Area, Refinished Hardwood Floors, New Carpet Downstairs, Steel Reinforced Foundation & Seismic Upgrades.
OFFERED AT \$699,000

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510.849.9900

Join Us this weekend at the Lafayette Art & Wine Festival!



HERITAGE REAL ESTATE
FINE HOMES & ESTATES
HeritageRealEstate.com

September 17th
10-7pm
September 18th
10-6pm



San Francisco
\$75,000
Open
This stunning Victorian home has a fabulous master suite with 2BR/2BA. Au Pair. Features custom kit, high ceilings, hwd floors, spa & parking.
1729 San Antonio Ave.
Open Sun 2-4:30
(510)339-8900



San Francisco/ Telegraph Hill
\$1,599,000
Prime location! 6 unit, 3-2 bedrooms, 3-1 bedrooms, 1 car garage Laundry, Storage. Views from top two floors. Perfect for owner user, 1 vacant unit + parking. 1 block walk to North Beach shops & coffee
Shown By Appt. Only
(510)339-8900



Hillcrest Estates
\$2,395,000 Open

4+BR/3BA. Just listed! Panoramic S.F. & Golden Gate views from all major rooms of this sun-washed Mediterranean Villa. Pool, spa, sauna on over 2 acres, secluded & privately gated. Library, family room, 3 frplcs, grand-sized rooms.

12667 Skyline Blvd.
Open Sun 2-4:30
510-339-8900



Hillier Highlands
\$975,000
Open
3BR/2 5BA. Elevator! No need to worry about stairs in Hillier. Wonderful panoramic bay view. State-of-the-art upgrades, hwd flrs, cherry cabinets, 2 frplcs. Garden w/ pond
45 Starview Dr.
Open Sun 2-4:30
(510)339-8900



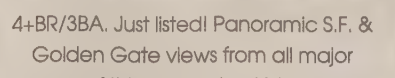
Montclair
\$849,000
Open
4BR/2BA. Light-filled & surrounded by trees and greenery. Gourmet kit, formal dining room, family room hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings Zen like qualities
2751 #D Chelsea Lane
Open Sun 2-4:30
(510)339-8900

Hillier Highlands
\$839,000
Soon

San Francisco
\$75,000
Open
This stunning Victorian home has a fabulous master suite with 2BR/2BA. Au Pair. Features custom kit, high ceilings, hwd floors, spa & parking.
1729 San Antonio Ave.
Open Sun 2-4:30
(510)339-8900



Montclair
\$819,000
Open
2+BR/2BA. Style, grace & space in this remodeled traditional. Fab kit, master suite, family room. Resort-like private yard w/ spa, pond, wtrfall. 2 frplcs. Walk to Montclair Village
5878 Moraga Ave.
Open Sun 2-4:30
(510)339-8900



Redwood Heights
\$769,000
Open
2+BR/2BA. Stylish mid-century classic. Clean modern lines, walls of windows frame bay views. Bright, spacious LR w/ frplc. Second frplc in den (could be 3rd BR). Sunny private garden
3306 Herrier St.
Open Sun 2-4:30
(510)339-8900



Lake Merritt
\$635,000
Open
2BR/2BA. 6th floor condo in Oakland's landmark Art Deco highrise. Commanding views from every room of Lake Merritt & the East Bay hills. With 24 hour doorman & valet service the building is a coveted address to own
492 Staten Ave #703
Open Sun 2-4:30
(510)339-8900



Oakland/Melrose
\$399,000
Open
Great curb appeal. This 1912 Victorian has been remodeled retaining period details. New kitchen, copper plumbing & electrical.
Shown By Appt.
(510)339-8900



Oakland/Melrose
\$399,000
Open
Great curb appeal. This 1912 Victorian has been remodeled retaining period details. New kitchen, copper plumbing & electrical.
Shown By Appt.
(510)339-8900



Oakland
\$489,000
Open
3BR/2BA. "Great Room" style kit w/ area for dining & relaxing! Open airy vaulted ceilings in major rooms. Level covered patio w/ access to large, priv fenced yard. Gar & basement
2465 26th Ave.
Open Sun 2-5:00
(510)339-8900

HeritageRealEstate.com
Listings. Tours. Open Homes. Throughout Northern California.
Visit or call our Montclair office anytime for information about our listings.
Your community is our world.
6211 La Salle Avenue - Montclair
510.339.8900

Oakland
\$398,000
Open

2BR/2BA. San Francisco & Hilltop views are delightful from this top floor corner condo. Crisp & clean with new carpets, fresh paint. Balcony for privacy outdoors. Lg. living room, dining area/eat-in kitchen. Lots of windows & natural light.
330 Vernon St. #402
Open Sun 2-4:30
(510)339-8900



Oakland
\$430,000
Open
1BR + loft/1BA unit in a great gated complex. Pool/Spa. In unit laundry. Lovely out look. Bus to S.F. Parking for convenience. Relax on your patio.
280 Caldecott #325
Open Sun 2-4:30
(510)339-8900



Flipping out over real estate

BY MARSHALL LOEB
MARKETWATCH

As our housing market continues to boom, many people have made big money by real estate "flipping." "A basic definition of 'flipping' is when people buy residential property, hold it for a brief period of time, make minor improvements, and then sell it, hoping it has appreciated quickly so they make a profit," says Nathan Halsey, founder and president of Bishop Abbey Homes, a builder in Dallas.

Areas that have appreciated fast, such as Florida and parts of Arizona, Nevada and California, have been popular places for "flippers" to make some good investments. Many have bought real estate, leased it for a while, and a year later, when it's appreciated — sometimes as much as 20 percent — cashed in.

It takes a lot of money and borrowing ability to try your hand at "flipping," cautions Halsey, so make sure you do some homework first:

- Whether you're thinking of buying close to home or in a distant market, you need to know what current selling prices are, what's available, and where.

- Pair up with a contractor or someone in the industry who can guide you into buying right.

- Look for opportunities to add value, rather than just to quickly buy and sell the property. Adding square feet, additional rooms or bathrooms, or improving landscaping will get the most out of your investment.

- Don't overextend your finances. Buy something you can afford in case you need to hold onto it longer than you realize.

Hamilton

FROM PAGE B14

I was thinking of paying off my mortgage on our residence, which is about \$180,000. What is the best thing to do?

A. Regardless of how long you have used the first house as a rental, you will have a significant capital gain on the sale of that property. If the investment basis now is around \$40,000 and you sell it for \$300,000 you have a \$260,000 gain to report. Many times people will use Section 1031 of the Internal Revenue Code to defer the gain through a property exchange.

However, since you desire to "cash out" in this property, exchanging the property is not an option for you to consider.

Given this scenario, the long-term capital gain of \$260,000 will cost you \$39,000 in capital gains taxes (assuming a 15 percent capital gains tax rate).

This will net you \$221,000, which is more than enough to pay off your other mortgage. Since I don't know more about your particular situation, I would suggest that you contact a tax professional to see if there may be some way for you to lower your tax liability, such as selling other long-term investments that are currently capital losses that can offset some of the gain on this rental property.

As you can see, there is a price to pay to be successful in the real estate market. Even so, you are much better off with the net proceeds of \$221,000 than otherwise.

Tom Hamilton, Ph.D., is associate professor at the Shenahan Center for Real Estate Education at the University of St. Thomas, Minneapolis. E-mail questions to: thamilton@stthomas.edu.

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OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2-4:30PM

ALL LEVEL LIVING



232 Pershing Drive, Oakland
Offered at \$1,100,000

A spacious and warm home, or a condo alternative bordering Piedmont. Abundant wood and brick give traditional charm to this updated 3BR/2.5BA home. Large family room, 2 fireplaces, lovely garden, and more.



HELENDANHAKI

510.547.5750

www.pacunion.com

JUST LISTED! OPEN SATURDAY, SEPT. 17TH 1-4 PM
OPEN SUNDAY, SEPT. 18TH 1-4 PM

6030 CHABOLYN TERRACE, BERKELEY

Nearly eight decades ago, a fine residence, that combines the character and charm of Renaissance style, arose in Rockridge. With Italian sensuality, this 4+ BR, 2.5 BA home includes a separate au-pair space plus an artist's studio and abundant storage. Generously scaled, the floor plan boasts softly arched doorways, natural mahogany wood trim. Gleaming hardwood floors & a fire-lit living room with coved ceilings. Adjacent to the sun-drenched kitchen is a large veranda, perfect for outdoor living. Outside, verdant tree-shaded grounds evoke a European estate of long ago.... Visit www.6030ChabolynTerrace.com for more information.

Offered at \$1,100,000



Patricia Scott Winslow
415.380.2161

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

pscottwinslow@pacunion.com
www.pacunion.com

- Original detailing includes lovely wrought iron staircase railing, stenciled beams and a large tiled fireplace.

- Superbly proportioned living and dining rooms with original detailing throughout.

- gorgeously refinished hardwood floors throughout.

- The kitchen impresses with maple floors, marble and maple counters, built-ins and breakfast area.

- Two bathrooms include original tile design

- Master bedroom opens out onto private, covered terrace

- Near B.A.R.T., U.C. Berkeley, shops and award winning restaurants.

WELLS BENNETT
REAL ESTATE

New Listing ~ Open Sunday September 18th
New Market Lofts ~ 201 4th Street, #302



This chic one bedroom, one bath end-unit in Oakland's premier conversion of the historic old Safeway Building features an exquisite comprised of granite counters, maple cabinets and stainless steel appliances, one secure parking spot, a community roof deck and work-out facility.
Offered at \$395,000

Professionalism and progress since 1924 ~ A family tradition.

Jeff Hilbert
Broker Associate
(510) 485-7214

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH 2-4:30PM



STUNNING VIEW HOME!

Exquisite 3+ bedroom, 3.5 bath Claremont home featuring many amenities, park-like setting, attention to detail and so much more! A MUST SEE! You'll never want to leave home! For more information, please call www.7089NorfolkRoad.com



7089 Norfolk Road,
Berkeley

Offered at \$1,495,000

Jeannie Anderson GRI, SRES
925.253.6226

www.jeannieanderson.com

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

COMING SOON IN EL CERRITO



615 Norvell Street ~ Price upon request

This charming El Cerrito home, built in 1946, has been lovingly maintained and updated. Freshly painted inside and out, refinished hardwood floors, updated kitchen and bath. Its convenient location is near schools, BART, and Fax Agency. Entertaining or relaxing in the lovely garden of this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home.

Bob & Carolyn Nelson

510.338.1345

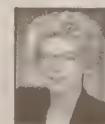
www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

NEW LISTING - AT HOME IN THE LAUREL DISTRICT

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 & 25, 2-4:30PM

Welcome to one of Oakland's friendliest neighborhoods! This charming bungalow has three freshly painted bedrooms, two baths, a family room, a formal dining room and nice-sized kitchen. Outside is a grassy yard, a patio, and a garage! Room for everyone in Oakland's lovely Laurel District!



3243 Madeline Street, Oakland
Offered at \$549,000

Joan Dark
510.338.1316

www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate

NEW TIMBERLAND LISTING

OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2-4:30PM



4170 Manila Avenue, Oakland

A home that embraces. With warm wood details and light-filled spaces, Craftsman offers a spacious kitchen/family room and a friendly green garden. Close to BART, Piedmont Avenue, and all the new pleasures of trendy Temecula.

Offered at \$549,000



Gini Erck

510.338.1339

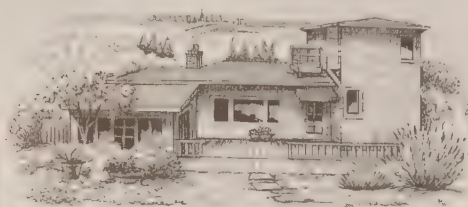
www.pacunion.com

Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section. The first place to look when looking for a new home.

PACIFIC UNION

GMAC Real Estate

NEW CLAREMONT LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2-5PM



36 Eucalyptus Path, Claremont Offered at \$750,000

Hidden in a secluded garden on a leafy footpath off lower Alvarado Road, this magical, affordable 1936 fixer offers exciting opportunity, a versatile 3+++BR/2BA plan, and sweeping Bay views from the Claremont Hotel cupola to the South Bay hills from nearly every room.



Donna DeBardi
510.338.1374

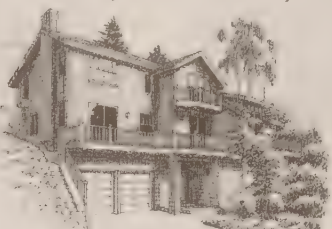
NEW PIEDMONT LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2-4:30PM



40 Fairview Avenue, Piedmont Offered at \$929,000

First time on the market in over 40 years, this spacious and bright Traditional home offers three levels of living space. Included are three bedrooms on one level, a spacious living room, formal dining room, one and one-half baths plus a lower level rumpus room, full bath and fourth bedroom. Features include a wood-burning fireplace, original wood windows, hardwood floors, 2-car garage, basement, gardens, Piedmont Schools.

NEW MONTCLAIR LISTING OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2-4:30PM



6848 Armour Drive, Oakland Offered at \$979,000

Sunny contemporary with Traditional flair in a serene setting with captivating San Francisco and Bay views. Dramatic rooms, cathedral beamed ceiling, wonderful outdoor entertaining spaces. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. Approximately 2700 sq. ft.



Leslie Easterday
510.338.1363

NEW ALBANY LISTING! OPEN SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2-4:30PM



850 Stannage Avenue #1, Albany Offered at \$369,000

Elegant condominium in small Mediterranean building. Centrally located - just steps away from shopping, restaurants, theater, and coffee! Easy bus transportation and BART nearby. Spacious living room, big eat-in kitchen. 1BR/1BA. Extra closets and storage. Hardwood floors. Freshly painted and staged!

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30

- | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| MONTCLAIR FAIRVIEW AVE. \$1,985,000 Monterey Colonial Traditional. 4BR/2BA. Grand living room w/French doors to garden & yard. Formal dining room, rumpus room, guest suite, garage. Ashley O'Neill x1368 | HILLCREST ESTATES 5455 BACON RD. \$1,180,000 (Open 1-5) New Listing! 6BR/4BA 1960 all level contemporary in near original condition on 1+ acre. Copper w/granite & newer appliances. Large fenced yard w/ lawn. 2+ car attached garage. Jennie Flanagan x1354 | HILLER HIGHLANDS 88 STARVIEW DR. \$885,000 New Listing! Stunning 3BR/2.5BA townhome. Freshly painted & carpeted throughout. Kitchen w/granite & newer appliances. Conveniently located near shopping & freeways. Joanna Hirsch x1366 | NORTH OAKLAND 769-775-777 60th ST. \$649,000 3 units - A single family bungalow on 1926, w/2 car garage & workshop, plus a vintage duplex all on one lot. 2 units are vacant and staged, all units 1BR. Condo conversion? Tom Nemeth 510-652-6537 | LAUREL 2621 CARMEL ST. \$549,000 Charming bungalow with 2BR & 2 updated baths. Living room with fireplace & hardwood floors. Full basement with expansion potential. Freshly painted. Lori Lombardo x1377 |
| MONTCLAIR 407 CUMING LANE \$1,699,000 New home on a very secluded lot. Only two blocks from schools. 4 bedrooms, three baths. David Galt x1331 | MONTCLAIR 232 PERSHING DR. \$1,100,000 New Listing! Sunny contemporary w/Traditional flair. Serene setting w/SF & Bay views. Dramatic rooms, cathedral beamed ceiling, wonderful outdoor spaces. 4BR/3.5BA. Teri Carlisle x1305 | EL CERRITO 6462 CONLON AVE. \$799,000 Newer tri-level contemporary in the El Cerrito hills near Del Norte BART 3BR/2.5BA, open floor plan, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen. Deck with views of Mt. Tam. Michelle Vasey x1359 | BERKELEY 1785-87 FRANKLIN ST. \$625,000 Charming duplex in garden setting just 2 blocks to BART. 2BR/1BA front unit & 1BR/1BA rear unit. Each unit has fireplace & hardwood floors. Off-street parking. Joanna Gould x1346 | LAUREL 3654 LILY ST. \$529,000 Adorable Mediterranean style 2BR home in a desirable area. Formal dining room, laundry room/storage area, attached garage. Large level backyard, covered patio. Cindy Houts x1364 |
| MONTCLAIR 40 HIGHLAND AVE. \$1,549,000 (Open 2-5) Architectural gem set on beautifully landscaped grounds. 3BR suites, 3BA, gorgeous pool & yard. Formal dining room, rumpus room. Details. David Ichikawa x1331 | MONTCLAIR 6848 ARMOUR DR. \$979,000 New Listing! Sunny contemporary w/Traditional flair. Serene setting w/SF & Bay views. Dramatic rooms, cathedral beamed ceiling, wonderful outdoor spaces. 4BR/3.5BA. Teri Carlisle x1305 | CLAREMONT 36 EUCALYPTUS PATH \$750,000 (Open 2-5) New Listing! Hidden on a leafy footpath off lower Alvarado Road, this magical, affordable 3+++BR/2BA fixer offers great opportunity and glorious Bay views. Gini Erck x1339 | LAUREL 4130 BAYO ST. \$599,000 Enchanting brown shingle w/2BR/1.5BA, 2 fireplaces, formal dining room, sweet country kitchen, and office. Set in a verdant garden oasis. A charmer! Jeanine Weller x1329 | CLAREMONT HILLS 220 CALDECOTT LN #117 \$525,000 Beautiful and sunny 2BR/2BA condo with views across the canyon to the hills and bay. Two-car parking, security, pool & fitness center. Jack McPhail x1336 |
| HILLER HIGHLANDS 2 LARKSPUR RD. \$1,495,000 Spacious & spacious 4++BR/4BA traditional house full-de-sac. Serene, park-like setting at street level lined with gorgeous homes. Details. David Ichikawa x1331 | MONTCLAIR 6848 ARMOUR DR. \$979,000 New Listing! Sunny contemporary w/Traditional flair. Serene setting w/SF & Bay views. Dramatic rooms, cathedral beamed ceiling, wonderful outdoor spaces. 4BR/3.5BA. Teri Carlisle x1305 | MONTCLAIR 6115 MERRIWOOD DR. \$749,000 Sun drenched romantic cottage tastefully updated. Ultimate setting with level lawns, mature gardens, deck and extensive hill & bay views. 2BR/1BA with expansion plans. Donna Costella x1355 | REDWOOD HEIGHTS 4715 DAVENPORT AVE. \$599,000 New Listing! Charming 3BR/1BA home with dynamite Bay views. Living and dining room lead out to a great deck and expansive yard. Updated kitchen. Plus space. Sandi Klemmer x1314 | JACK LONDON SQ. 311 OAK ST #517 \$519,000 (Open Sat & Sun) Sierra Lofts. Hip, modern living! Light, bright 2-story loft with soaring ceilings, granite kitchen and hill views. Many amenities: pool, garage, doorman. Donna DeBardi x1374 |
| MONTCLAIR 40 KINGSTON AVE. \$1,395,000 (Open Sat & Sun) New Listing! 4BR/2BA Mediterranean w/many original details. Updated kitchen & baths, hardwood floors, formal dining. French doors to yard. Details. Callahan x1343 & Sally Morrison x1313 | PIEDMONT 40 FAIRVIEW AVE. \$929,000 New Listing! Spacious & bright Traditional home w/3 levels. 3+BR/2+BA, formal dining room, lower level rumpus room. Hardwood floors, 2-car garage, basement, gardens. Donna DeBardi x1374 | MONTCLAIR 6363 ASPINWALL RD. \$749,000 Three-level, mid-century home. Dramatic living room with high ceiling & hardwood floors. 3BR/2BA, family room. Approx. half acre garden. Sheila Gallagher x1383 | NORTH BERKELEY 1512 HEARST AVE. \$599,000 (Open 2-5) Beautiful 2BR/1BA detached condo near BART & Ohlone Park. Gorgeous hardwood floors, fireplace, formal dining room. Large eat-in kitchen. Deck & yard. Jennie A. Flanagan x1354 | NORTH OAKLAND 844 55th ST. \$499,000 Simply beautiful & lovingly restored bungalow with extra spaces & detached garage/workshop. Convenient to both Rockridge & Emeryville shopping. Tom Nemeth 510-652-6537 |
| MONTCLAIR 407 ZINN DR. \$1,295,000 New Listing! Lovely, light & bright Five bedroom, two bath home built 6 years ago & meticulously maintained. Impressive views. Park-like setting. Near Montclair Village. Dee Knowland x1318 | RIDGEMONT 6280 VIEWCREST DR. \$925,000 Outstanding indoor/outdoor living & excellent floor plan. 4BR/3BA, master suite with deck, family room & bonus room. Large level yard, 3-car garage. Wendy Gardner-Ferrari x1303 | MONTCLAIR 6363 ASPINWALL RD. \$749,000 Three-level, mid-century home. Dramatic living room with high ceiling & hardwood floors. 3BR/2BA, family room. Approx. half acre garden. Sheila Gallagher x1383 | TEMESCAL 4170 MANILA AVE. \$575,000 (Open 2-5) New Listing! A 2BR craftsman w/warm wood details and light-filled spaces including kitchen/family room and friendly green yard near BART & Piedmont Ave. Gini Erck x1339 | OAKLAND 1742 12th AVE. \$489,000 Wonderful 3BR/2BA Victorian beauty. Incredible details, hardwood floors, fireplace, grand moldings & more. Updated kitchen & baths. Michelle Vasey x1359 |
| MONTCLAIR 40 SCENIC AVE. \$1,295,000 New Listing! Piedmont Brown Shingle. 3++BR, 2BA, master suite with sitting room and deck, formal kitchen, formal dining room with built-in fireplace, garden. Keith Tollas x1382 | RIDGEMONT 6228 RIDGEMONT DR. \$899,000 New Listing! Lovely Ridgemoor home w/tranquil outdoor living in a beautiful garden setting. 4BR/3BA including a first floor BR/BA. Eat-in kitchen, family room. Robyn Mohr x1310 | SAN LEANDRO 195 BROADMOOR BLVD. \$719,000 (Open 1-4) New Listing! Lovely Broadmoor District home w/3BR/2 updated baths, spacious eat-in kitchen w/custom cabinetry, formal dining room w/French doors to a large level yard. Candy Benny x1328 | LAUREL 3243 MADELINE ST. \$549,000 New Listing! Charming 3BR/2BA bungalow. Family room, formal dining room, nice-sized kitchen. Outside is a grassy yard, a patio, and a garage. Joan Dark x1316 | NORTH BERKELEY 1514 HEARST AVE. \$479,000 (Open 2-5) Charming & whimsical 2BR/1BA detached condo near BART & Ohlone Park. Beautiful softwood floors in living room, kitchen and one bedroom. Wonderful outdoor spaces. Jennie A. Flanagan x1354 |
| MONTCLAIR 40 BROADWAY TERR. \$1,195,000 New Listing! Charming style home built in 1994, with the best of contemporary with old world charm. Exceptional views and privacy. Details. Callahan x1343 & Sally Morrison x1313 | MONTCLAIR 1865 MANZANITA DR. \$899,000 Sophisticated multi-level home with bay views. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, vaulted ceilings, updated kitchen, terraced grass areas, decks, fruit trees. Michelle Vasey x1359 | OAKLAND HILLS 5571 GRIFFIN ST. \$695,000 New Listing! Beautiful country setting. Level-in 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on a cul-de-sac. Family room, large lot, 2-car garage. Francis Heath x1357 | ALBANY 850 STANNAGE AVE. #1 \$369,000 New Listing! Rare find in Albany! Delightful 1BR condo near Solano Avenue shopping, restaurants & coffee. Freshly painted, hardwood floors, big closets. Eat-in kitchen. Leslie Easterday x1363 | |

BY APPOINTMENT

COMING SOON

- | | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| OAKLAND Investor opportunity! Updated 6 unit building located between Rockridge & Elmwood. Convenient to UC Berkeley, BART, College & Telegraph Ave. shopping & restaurants. Call agent for showing times. Jeffrey Himmel x1307 | MONTCLAIR 2BR/1BA 1950's mid-century modern. Clean lines, walls of glass, soaring spaces. Level-in and level-out to secluded patio and yard with Mt. Tam and North Bay views. Jeffrey Himmel x1307 | PIEDMONT Private gates lead to a Piedmont classic English Tudor on approximately 1.4 useable acres. Public rooms include a ball room and library. A one of a kind opportunity. Robyn Mohr x1310 | CLAREMONT PINES \$2,190,000 Majestic columned Colonial. Gracious & grand formal rooms, chef's kitchen, lovely professionally landscaped level gardens, even a widow's walk with incredible views. Dee Knowland x1318 | EL CERRITO price upon request Charming 3BR/2BA home built in 1946. Lovingly restored and updated. Freshly painted inside & out, refinished hardwood floors, updated kitchen & bath. Lovely garden. Near schools, BART & Fair Appls. Bob & Carolyn Nelson x1345 |
| MONTCLAIR \$2,950,000 English Tudor with extraordinary architectural detail throughout. 4+BR/4BA, master suite with sitting room and deck, formal kitchen, formal dining room with built-in fireplace, garden. Keith Tollas x1382 | MONTCLAIR \$1,900,000 Exceptional 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home with top-of-the-world bay views. Spectacular gourmet kitchen, library/office, large bonus room, gorgeous gardens, level yard, terraces. Nancy Moore x1302 | CLAREMONT \$2,950,000 English Tudor with extraordinary architectural detail throughout. 4+BR/4BA, master suite with sitting room and deck, formal kitchen, formal dining room with built-in fireplace, garden. Keith Tollas x1382 | | |

Looking for a new home? Don't miss this week's Open Home Guide starting on

JUST SOLD

We recently represented the Buyer of
1909 Oakland Avenue
Piedmont



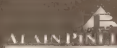
For help in finding
 the home of your
 dreams, please
 give us a call.



**David and Claire
 Cunningham**

510-287-9065

Coming Soon



5323 ESTATES DRIVE, OAKLAND
COMING SOON. This Miller-Warneke designed English cottage-style home is perfectly sited for privacy and gracious indoor-outdoor living on approximately a third of an acre of park-like grounds. Wonderful architectural details include the two-story entry with spiral staircase and turret and the living room with hand-carved wooden beams and vaulted ceiling. Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath and a very charming studio apartment over a detached three-car garage.

Offered at \$1,495,000

CAROLYN DEVOL
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 cdevol@apr.com



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1412 Derby Street
Berkeley

Retreat to
 an Urban Oasis!!

Offered at \$549,000

- Open floor plan extending to the park-like yard
- Updated spacious kitchen and light-filled family room
- Two bedrooms (one with cedar-lined closet), remodeled bath
- Environmentally conscious landscaping, fruit trees & California natives
- Spa-like sauna, outdoor shower and ipe wood deck
- Attached garage with laundry room

More details and photos at www.baproperties.com
 Diana Yonkouski 510.597.0292

Bay Area Properties on Claremont



OPEN
 SUNDAY
 2-4

MORTGAGE RATES

REAL SERVICE • REAL PEOPLE • REAL DIFFERENCE

| 10/1 ADJUSTABLE | | 15 YEAR FIXED | | 30 YEAR FIXED JUMBO | |
|-----------------|--------|---------------|--------|---------------------|--------|
| RATE | APR | RATE | APR | RATE | APR |
| 5.375%* | 5.674% | 5.125%** | 5.315% | 5.75%*** | 5.858% |



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email: BrydonB@BankofAlameda.com



Member FDIC



*5.674% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$356,650 loan amount + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. 10/1 adjustable rate mortgage is fixed for the first 10 years and then adjusted to market rate every year thereafter. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount of \$359,650 is approximately \$2,014 (subjected to maximum loan-to-value of 80%). Homeowners insurance required.
 **5.315% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$359,650 loan amount + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 15 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment on maximum conforming loan amount is approximately \$2,868. Homeowners insurance required.
 ***5.858% estimated annual percentage rate is based on \$500,000 + 1 pt. loan fee. Applicable closing costs will apply. Loan term is for 30 years and subject to maximum loan-to-value of 80%. Estimated payment is \$2,918. Homeowners insurance is required.

Above programs are based on primary, single family residences, townhouses, and condominiums only. No prepayment penalty required. Cash out allowed up to 75% loan-to-value. Other restrictions may apply. All credit applications are subject to credit qualifications and underwriting requirements. Rates as of 9/13/05 are subject to change without notice.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 PM



1095 Bancroft Ave., San Leandro
 Sweet cottage w/charming details!
 Sunroom, eat-in kitchen, brick fireplace,
 fruit & flowering trees in creekside garden.
 2BD 1.5BA.

Offered at \$575,000



1079 Lee Ave., San Leandro
 Mediterranean split level residence!
 Hardwood Floors, Formal Dining Room,
 sunny breakfast room, den, and
 porch. 3BD 2BA.



Nayo Family Partners
 Lydia Nayo & Kelley Nayo-Cliett
 510-339-4728

californiamoves.com

NEW LISTINGS - OPEN SUNDAY



4284 Atlas Avenue, Oakland
 Built in 1930, this delightful, English style home
 features hardwood floors, vaulted ceiling, fireplace,
 built-in china cabinet & dual pane windows. Great
 Redwood Heights location with beautifully landscaped
 front garden & sunny rear yard w/ brick patio, deck &
 planting beds. 3 BR / 1 BA

Offered at \$619,000



1871 Tiffin Road, Oakland
 Oakmore traditional home with
 floor plan, hardwood floors,
 fireplaces, formal dining room,
 more! Spacious kitchen with
 sitting room, granite tile counter,
 rear deck plus lower patio & garden.
 3 BR - 2 1/2 BA

Offered at \$799,000



Darcy Diamantine
 (510) 339-4767



1001 PARK LANE

In Crocker, Monterey Colonial with beautiful hardwood floors. French doors from front deck for E-Z entertaining. Charming garden with curved ribbon brick walkway & relaxing. Very special!

Originally asking \$869,000
 Represented the Seller
 Sold with 4 offers!



Ruby Ng, CRS
 Broker Associate
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www.rubyng.com

New Listing Open Sun 2-4



6820 Pinehaven Rd., Montclair

Designed by Charles Kahn custom built 2 BD, 2.5 BA contemporary home with bright open floor plan and modern amenities. Maple and red oak floors. Extras include an office, media room, laundry, storage, dbl lot, professional landscaping.



Joan Duffield
 510-339-4774

Offered at \$925,000
www.6820pinehavenrd.com

New on Market



4128 Fruitvale, Oakland • Offered at \$580,000
 Adorable 2 bedroom 1 bath cottage nestled in the woods with updated kitchen and amenities with the feeling of being at a weekend retreat.

Open Sunday 2-5



Terry Kulka
 510-339-4789
 300 Houses Sold - Experience Counts

CONTACT THE REAL ESTATE EDITOR AT 510-748-1655
OR E-MAIL DEVANOSKY@CCTIMES.COM.

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text and photo to: ljessup@cctimes.com



**HADDON HILL
571 ATHOL AVE., OAKLAND
OFFERED AT \$555,000**

2+ BR 1BA Arts & Crafts bungalow with rich woodwork, abundant period details, spacious eat-in kitchen & beautifully landscaped yard.

MONICA ZUCK 510-339-4717
BONNIE ROSS 510-339-4788



Open Saturday & Sunday 2-4:30



**61 Schooner Hill • Offered at \$839,000
New on the Market**

This spacious 2 bedroom 2.5 bath Hiller Highlands townhouse was designed to capture the
stunning views of the Bay, San Francisco, the Golden Gate Bridge and, on a clear day, the
Marin Islands. It features a spacious master bedroom suite, guest bedroom and large loft that is
perfect for a home office, den, family room or library.

Terry Kulka
510-339-4789

300 Houses Sold - Experience Counts



A Rare Find!



5601 Denton Place, Oakland

Hillcrest Estates. 2+ acres w/privacy & 3 bridge views. Gated all fenced w/ pool,
spa & solar heat. Rehab 8 years ago. 4 Bed & 3.5 Ba.

Offered at \$2,200,000



**Judy Ackerman
(510) 339-4749**

Previews Property Specialist
www.camoves.com



FABULOUS PROPERTY

3911 HAPPY VALLEY ROAD, LAFAYETTE

OPEN 1-4



Live On Your Own Private Resort!

Fabulous estate on 1.53 heavily wooded acres in prestigious Happy Valley. Magnificent home has 4 spacious BR's & 6 full bths in main home. Huge gourmet eat-in kitchen w/frpls and adj. Fam room. Living room w/frpls & Fab views; formal dining room has French doors to serene patio. Lux master suite w/ sitting room & Frpls & access to private balcony. Sparkling pool has cabana w/kitchen, bath & BR. Lighted tennis court. Spacious guest

house w/living quarters, kit, bath & exercise rm. Quick close - Immediate possession.
www.discriminatinghomes.com

\$3,200,000



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THE SPRING MANSION

REPRESENTED BOTH BUYERS AND SELLERS.
THE MOST SIGNIFICANT RESIDENTIAL
PROPERTY EVERY SOLD IN BERKELEY.

Designed for real estate developer John H. Spring by John Hudson Thomas, this palatial home was built in the Beaux Arts tradition. Main House has 7 bedrooms, 6 bathrooms, a grand living room, formal dining room and a billiard/sitting room. Situated on over 2.75 acres of land.

\$6,300,000



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BARBARA'S DIRECT LINE
510.981.3020

To view more listings visit
www.marienthal.com



Kim@marienthal.com
Barbara@marienthal.com

House hunting this weekend? Turn to Hills Newspapers Real Estate & Home section first.

Hills Newspapers: Your number one source for up-to-date East Bay real estate information

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4

20 LA CINTILLA
ORINDA

Exciting Tudor located in the Prestigious Orinda Country Club area. Has approx. 3,660 SF on .29 Acs of lovely wooded property. There are 4 spacious BRS, 3.5 BTHS. Lge eat-in kit w/ adjoining fam rm with frpls. Spacious liv. rm with coffered ceiling & frpls, library, formal din rm opens to huge shaded Verandah. Lux master suite w/ frpls. Bonus rm for exercise, office, etc. discriminatinghomes.com

\$1,790,000

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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www.discriminatinghomes.com

LEONA HEIGHTS

OPEN SUNDAY
SEPT. 18TH
1-5 PM

5601 LEONA

COUNTRY PAVILION ESTATE!

Located on approx. 1 acre of almost level land! Gated home with stately oak trees boasts 4 bedrooms built in 1915 for the San Francisco Panama Pacific Expo as a pavilion and put on a barge and shipped to its location. Entertain or relax in style in the "Great Room" where many original features are retained including wainscot walls, tall vaulted wood beam ceilings, grand style fireplace with mantel. Exceptional patio with antique tiling that is hard to replicate today. Modern amenities include top-of-the-line appliances, electrical, fresh exterior paint. A gazebo, patio, au pair space and more will delight your senses!

Offered at \$1,299,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723

View photos at www.donnaconroy.com
Or www.Realtor.com

MONTCLAIR • PIEDMONT PINES

OPEN SUN
SEPT. 18 • 1-5 PM9110 SKYLINE BLVD.
Private retreat with a VIEW!

Picture yourself here! Just across from the Regional Park, this home is located on a private drive and tucked away from the road. This 4 bedroom and 2 bath home is designed for easy living where the outdoors is the big focus with views towards the Bay and nice decks to enjoy the view. Upstairs features 2 bedrooms and 1 bath with big kitchen, wood floors, and fireplace. Sliding doors open to the good sized deck. Downstairs features 2 bedrooms and 1 bath with a big family room and fireplace. Again, this opens to a big deck and goes down to the big back yard. Feel like you're away from the city yet just minutes to the Village, schools and more!

Offered at \$749,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723

Tour at www.donnaconroy.com

COLDWELL
BANKER

RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

New on Market in Rockridge



6687 Chabot Road • Asking \$850,000

Rockridge charm at its best. 3+bedroom 1.5 bath with a formal dining room bathroom, lovely hardwood floors, dramatic vaulted ceiling and large arched living room, great home office/ playroom and a large fenced park like backyard. Charming Avenue shops, BART and convenient freeway access.

Open Sunday 2-5

Terry Kulka

510-339-4789

300 Houses Sold • Experience Counts

COLDWELL BANKER

www.CaliforniaMoves.com

Berkeley 510.486.1495 • Oakland 510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

OAKLAND \$3,800,000
2 BR 3.5 BA Equestrian facility w/4 living qtrs, 60 stalls for horses. 2 arenas w/1 covered. Main house is a masterpiece w/2 kits. All redone.

Judy Ackerman 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$2,200,000

4 BR 3.5 BA Redone, level in, gated w/ pano views, pool & hot tub. Over 2 acres. Ultimate finishes, gourmet Kit open to family rm. Park setting.

Judy Ackerman 510.339.4700

OPEN HOUSES

MONTCLAIR \$1,499,000

6267 Ruthland Rd Sun 2 - 4:30

3 BR 3.5 BA Revel in style in this contemporary with city-light views. Family room.

David Eckert 510.339.4700

OAKLAND \$1,499,000

6171 Ruthland Rd Sun 2 - 4:30

4 BR 3 BA Spacious & light, indoor/outdoor living from fam rm & kit serene setting on large parcel.

James Brown 510.339.4700



LEONA HEIGHTS \$1,299,000

5601 Leona St Sun 1 - 5

4 BR 4 BA Country Pavilion estates. Grand size rooms, almost 1 acre. One of a kind & special.

Donna Conroy & Karen Selby-Miller 510.339.4700

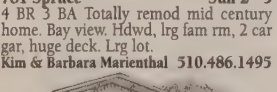


BERKELEY HILLS \$1,175,000

781 Spruce Sun 2 - 5

4 BR 3 BA Totally remod mid century home. Bay view. Hdwd, lrg fam rm, 2 car gar, huge deck. Lrg lot.

Kim & Barbara Marienthal 510.486.1495



ALBANY \$1,099,000

717 Hillside Ave Sat/Sun 1 - 5

4 BR 2.5 BA Bay views/Mt. Tam & bridges, spacious design, Nr entrance to park, landscaped yard, hdwd.

Dan Joy 510.339.4700



OPEN HOUSES



MONTCLAIR \$925,000

6820 Pinehaven Rd. Sat/Sun 2 - 4:30

2 BR 2.5 BA 2002 Custom contemp craftsman, lite & brite, plus media rm & office, eat-in kitchen. Dbl lot

Joan Dufield 510.339.4700

ALBANY \$850,000

555 Pierce St #1339 Sun 2 - 5

2+ BR 2.5 BA 2 story Penthouse. Open lvr, din area and kit, hw flrs; SF Views.

www.555Pierce1339.com

Parviz Bagherzadeh 510.486.1495

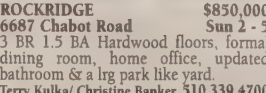


ROCKRIDGE \$850,000

6687 Chabot Road Sun 2 - 5

3 BR 1.5 BA Hardwood floors, formal dining room, home office, updated bathroom & a lrg park like yard.

Terry Kulka/ Christine Banker 510.339.4700

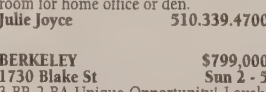


HILLER HIGHLANDS \$839,000

61 Schooner Hill Sun 2 - 4:30

2 BR 2.5 BA Spacious townhouse with stunning City & GG Bridge view. Plus room for home office or den.

Julie Joyce 510.339.4700



BERKELEY \$799,000

1730 Blake St Sun 2 - 5

3 BR 2 BA Unique Opportunity! Lovely Craftsman bungalow on 7900+ sqft landscaped lot, zoned R2.

Tomi Thomas 510.486.1495

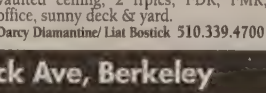


OAKMORE \$799,000

1871 Tiffin Sun 2 - 4:30

4 BR 2.5 BA Traditional, hdwd flrs, vaulted ceiling, 2 frpls, FDR, FMR, office, sunny deck & yard.

Darcy Diamantine/ Liat Bostick 510.339.4700



OPEN HOUSES

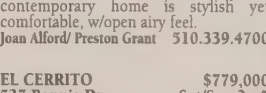


PIEDMONT PINES \$789,000

22 Keswick Ct. Sun 2 - 4:30

3 BR 2.5 BA Built in 1994, this upscale contemporary home is stylish yet comfortable, w/open airy feel.

Joan Alford/ Preston Grant 510.339.4700

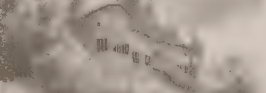


EL CERRITO \$779,000

537 Bonnie Dr. Sat/Sun 2 - 5

3 BR 2 BA Great views & space! Gorgeous kitchen, fm, rm, parquet, skylights, hot tub, open flr plan.

Zanna Knight 510.486.1495

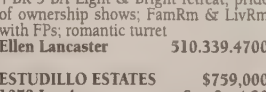


MONTCLAIR \$765,000

350 Taurus Ave Sat 1-4/Sun 2-5

4 BR 3 BA Light & Bright retreat; pride of ownership shows; FamRm & LivRm with FP; romantic turret

Ellen Lancaster 510.339.4700

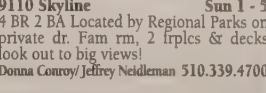


ESTADILLO ESTATES \$759,000

1079 Lee Ave Sun 2 - 4:30

3 BR 2 BA Charming Mediterranean w/ creekside setting in San Leandro.

Lydia Nayo 510.339.4700

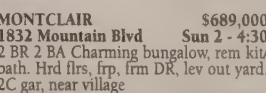


MONTCLAIR'S PIEDMONT PINES \$749,000

9110 Skyline Sun 1 - 5

4 BR 2 BA Located by Regional Parks on private dr. Fam rm, 2 frpls & decks look out to big views!

Donna Conroy/ Jeffrey Neideman 510.339.4700

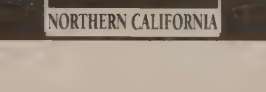


BERKELEY \$699,000

1160 Keeler Sun 2 - 5

2 BR 2 BA Lovely home. Fresh paint, hw floors, 2 frpls, in-law unit and large yard.

Barbara Marienthal 510.486.1495



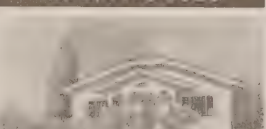
MONTCLAIR \$689,000

1832 Mountain Blvd Sun 2 - 4:30

2 BR 2 BA Charming bungalow, rem kit/ bath. Hrd flrs, frp, frm DR, lev out yard, 2C gar, near village

Claudia Bowman 510.339.4700

OPEN HOUSES

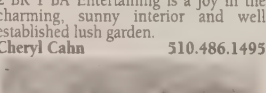


ALBANY \$650,000

1215 Portland Ave. Sun 2 - 5

2 BR 1 BA Entertaining is a joy in the charming, sunny interior and well established lush garden.

Cheryl Cahn 510.486.1495

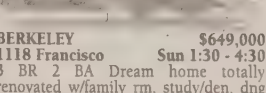


BERKELEY \$649,000

1118 Francisco Sun 1:30 - 4:30

3 BR 2 BA Dream home totally renovated w/family rm, study/den, dng rm, amenities & a superb yard!

Rita Zwierling 510.486.1495

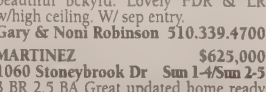


SOUTH BERKELEY \$649,000

3216 Ellis Sun 2 - 4:30

3 BR 2 BA Renovated Victorian w/ beautiful bckrd. Lovely FDR & LR w/high ceiling, W/ sep entry.

Gary & Noni Robinson 510.339.4700



MARTINEZ \$625,000

1060 Stoneybrook Dr Sun 1-4/Sun 2-5

3 BR 2.5 BA Great updated home ready to move right in; easy access to shops, food, schools, freeway.

Ellen Lancaster 510.339.4700

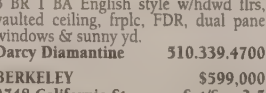


REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$619,000

4284 Atlas Ave Sun 2 - 4:30

2 BR 1 BA English style w/hdwd flrs, vaulted ceiling, frplc, FDR, dual pane windows & sunny yd.

Darcy Diamantine 510.339.4700

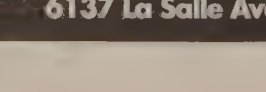


BERKELEY \$599,000

2748 California St. Sat/Sun 2-5

2 BR 1 BA Tastefully remodeled bungalow. All of the details are here. Private backyard. Come & see!

Kimiko Terry & Sebastian Ages 510.486.1495



OAKLAND \$617,000

9617 C St.

4 BR 3 BA Updated, courtyard & 3 car gar, new carpet, tile & paint.

Laura Arechiga

BERKELEY \$510,000

1721 Berkeley Way, Unit 2

2 BR 1 BA Sunny, condome

& priv deck. Freshly exp

Near shops, trans & L

Jacky Arvin

1495 Shattuck Ave, Berkeley

COLDWELL
BANKER

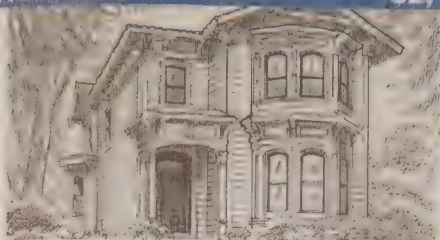
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

6137 La Salle Avenue, Oakland

COLDWELL BANKER BERKELEY

BERKELEY \$2,150,000

BY APPT



BERKELEY HISTORIC TREASURE

This Gem is truly one of Berkeley's historically significant treasures. Built in 1877 this "Bartlett House" is considered one of the finest examples of Italianate architecture in the Bay Area. These two amazing homes share one large approx. 13,500 sq ft lot and are being offered AS-IS.

J. MICHAEL POWERS
510-981-3027
www.PowersGroup.com



BERKELEY \$525,000

OPEN SUNDAY



ELEGANT CONDO NEAR COLLEGE AVE

2828 Prince St. has the warmth & charm of a home. Very spacious (over 1000SF) one-bedroom, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen w/breakfast nook, built-in office, LR w/fireplace, beautiful mahogany floors, garage & roof deck. Pix at www.californiamoves.com/diana.kay OPEN 1:30 - 4:00PM

DIANA KAY
REALTOR
(510)981-3005



EL CERRITO \$575,000

OPEN SAT/SUN



CHARMING EL CERRITO HOME

Three bedroom, one bath home has new granite counter tops & floor in the kitchen. New dual-paned windows and fireplace. Big private backyard has mature lemon and pomegranate trees. Come by 441 Norvell St on Sat & Sun 2-5pm

KIMIKO TERRY & SEBASTIAN AGES
510-689-6896 or 510-981-3006



BERKELEY

OPEN SUNDAY



GARDENER'S DELIGHT & ROOM TO GROW

1730 Blake St. Creative possibilities abound! Charming 3/2 bungalow on 7900+ sq. ft. lot. ZONED R-2. Features: Original hardwood floors, many updates, master w/walk-in closet, hardwood flrs, 2 car garages, potagere, landscaped. Open Sunday 2 to 5 pm.

WANDA "TOMI" THOMAS
510-981-3037



BERKELEY

JUST SOLD



CHEERFUL WESTBRAE BUNGALOW!

1908 Ordway Street sold for 16% over list price. We had the pleasure of representing the sellers of this charming home. If there is a move in your future, please contact Tania or Barb for a market evaluation and a tailored marketing program. We look forward to talking with you.

Tania Balazs-Gvishi & Barb Allendorf
510-981-3048 & 510-981-3019



BERKELEY \$599,000

OPEN SAT/SUN



COZY AND CONTEMPORARY BERKELEY BUNGALOW

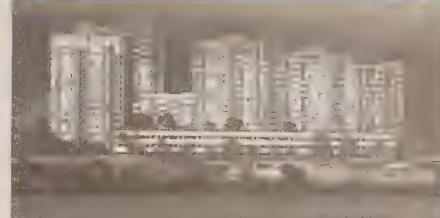
Immaculate two bedroom one bath at 2748 California St. Complete remodel includes new fixtures and stainless appliances. Freshly refinished hardwood floors & new carpet in the bedrooms. Home is seismically retrofitted & RECO compliant. Open Sat & Sun 2-5pm.

KIMIKO TERRY & SEBASTIAN AGES
510-689-6896 or 510-981-3006



ALBANY \$850,000

OPEN SUNDAY



PENTHOUSE LIVING AT ITS BEST!

Soak under the sun on the rooftop deck or barbeque under the skies of the East Bay. Two story Condo, 2+ bedrooms, 2.5 baths, approx. 1497 Sq. Ft., high ceilings, totally remodeled. Please see for detailed info. 555 Pierce St. #1339 Albany. Please see www.555Pierce1339.com for detailed info. Open Sunday 9/18 2-5 PM

PARVIZ BAGHERZADEH
510-981-3055



EL CERRITO \$575,000

OPEN SAT/SUN



SPACIOUS EL CERRITO CRAFTSMAN, BONUS OFFICE AND BATH!!

Three bedroom one bath in main house, attached office plus full bath in back. 6626 Cutting Blvd is walking distance to Del Norte Bart and shops. Hardwood floors throughout, fireplace, big kitchen with an oversized backyard. Open Sat & Sun 2-5pm

KIMIKO TERRY & SEBASTIAN AGES
510-689-6896 or 510-981-3006



KENSINGTON CALL FOR PRICE

JUST SOLD



THIS FABULOUS MID-CENTURY HAS NEW OWNERS

137 Purdue sold with 12 offers at nearly 50% over the asking price. If you are thinking about selling and want to know what it takes to prepare, market and sell your home successfully, please call. Selling the Right House-Right Time-Right Price. Email: barballendorf@yahoo.com

BARB ALLENDORF
510-981-3019
www.thathouselady.com



EMERYVILLE \$495,000

JUST LISTED



SOPHISTICATED LIVING WITH INCREDIBLE VIEWS

Light, bright and large 1 BD/1BA condominium located in the prestigious Pacific Park Plaza. This unit features dramatic S.F. Bay and Golden Gate Bridge views as well as Mt. Tamalpais sunsets. Amenities include 24-hour security, tennis courts, pool, spa and health club. Please visit www.GDELLA.com for more information.

Gene Della Maggiora
510-981-3044
gene@cubik.com



1495 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94709



Office: 510.486.1495
Fax: 510.549.3720

californiamoves.com

| Hercules | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| \$725,000 | 156 Woodside |
| Open Sun, 1:30-4:30 | Berkeley Hills Realty |
| \$935,000 | 1099 Sounth Street |
| Open Sunday, 2:00-4:30 | Coldwell Banker |
| \$935,000 | 1099 S. Shattuck |
| Sun 2-4:30pm | Coldwell Banker |
| Kensington | |
| \$615,000 | 312 Venable |
| Open Sun, 2-4:30 | Prudential |
| \$649,000 | 411 Colusa St. |
| Open Sat/Sun, 1-4 | Keller Williams, Berkeley |
| \$665,000 | 275 Lake St. |
| Open Sun, 2-4:30 | Berkeley Hills Realty |
| \$898,000 | 474 Beaulieu |
| Open Sun 2-4 | Marvin Gardens R.E. |
| \$1,130,000 | 42 Arlingwood |
| Open Sun, 1-5 | Red Oak Realty |
| \$1,250,000 | 20 Hightway 92 |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | The Grubb Co. |
| Lafayette | |
| \$3,200,000 | 3911 Happy Valley |
| Open Sun 1-4 | Coldwell Banker |
| Martinez | |
| \$625,000 | 1060 Stonebriar |
| Sat 1-4, Sun 2-5 | Coldwell Banker |
| Oakland | |
| \$1,575,000 | 175 Villanova |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | Wells & Bennett Realtors |
| \$3,300,000 | 330 Vermont St. |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | Adams Poir |
| \$551,000 | 5416 Broadway |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | Wells & Bennett Realtors |
| \$552,000 | 2621 Hickory |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | Valva Realty Co. |
| \$581,000 | 5878 Monte Carlo |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | C21 Heritage |
| \$630,000 | 280 Calhoun |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | C21 Heritage |
| \$629,000 | 250 Whittier |
| Open Sun, 1-4 | Keller Williams |
| \$629,000 | 455 Crescent Hill |
| Open Sun 2-4 | Prudential CA Realty |
| \$330,000 | 8717 Mountbaker |
| Open Sat & Sun, 2-4 | Prudential |
| \$339,000 | 550-10th St. - 16 |
| Open Sun, 2-5 | Downtown |
| \$349,000 | 10 Moss Ave. |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | The Grubb Co. |
| \$359,000 | 193 Montecito Ave. - 40 |
| Open Sun, 1-4 | Re/Max E.Bay Hills |
| \$359,000 | 2323 Magnolia St. |
| Open Sun 2-4 | Red Oak Realty |
| \$379,000 | 7 W. Embarcadero |
| Open Sun, 1-4 | Re/Max E.Bay Hills |
| \$389,000 | 2938 Mirafloja |
| Open Sun, 1-4 | Red Oak Realty |
| \$389,000 | 303 Adams Poir |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | Wells & Bennett Realtors |
| \$389,000 | 657 65th Street |
| Open Sun 1-5 | Lawton Associates |
| \$389,000 | 928 54th Ave. - 4 |
| Open Sun, 2-5 | E. Oakland |
| \$395,000 | 201 40th St. - 40 |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | Wells & Bennett Realtors |
| \$398,000 | 330 Vermont St. |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | Adams Poir |
| \$399,000 | 10817 Duggan |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | Durham Square |
| \$399,000 | 4799 Bailey St. |
| Open Sun, 1:30-4 | Red Oak Realty |
| \$400,000 | 3467 Loma Vista |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | Laurel |
| \$410,000 | 688 38th St. |
| Open Sun, 2-4 | Thorndall Properties |
| \$420,000 | 2416 Palmetto |
| Open Sun 2-4:30 | DiMond Realty |
| \$425,000 | 1504 50th Ave. |
| Open Sun, 2-4:30 | Better Homes Mortal |
| \$425,000 | 589 Valley St. |
| Open Sat & Sun, 2-4:30 | Prudential |
| \$429,000 | 1131 Washington |
| Open Sat & Sun, 2-4 | Northbrae Properties |
| \$429,000 | 1262 24th St. |
| Open Sun, 1-4 | West Colucci |
| \$489,000 | 2456 26th Ave |
| Open Sun 2-5 | C21 Heritage |

OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracostatimes.com

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|--|---|
| 1555 Lakeside Dr. #103 Lakeside Regency Ebay Hills | 2bd/2ba 510-595-7699 Dave Higgins |
| 2202 Damuth #4 Diamond Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2BD/2BA 531-7000 x282 Teri L. Lester |
| 3514 Redding St Laurel Wells & Bennett Realtors | 531-7000 x228 Kate Phillips |
| 4015 Walnut St. Alhambra Park Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2BD/1BA 510-339-9290 Doug Fuller |
| 565 Belyue Ave. #1106 Adams Pl. Ebay Hills | 1bd/2ba 510-595-7699 Dave Higgins |
| 3333 Kempton Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3bd/1.5ba 510-339-9290 Chris Hansen |
| 9950 Longfellow Ave. Tolier Heights Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2bd/1ba 510-967-9120 Wilbert Ross |
| 4133 Penniman Ave. Adams Pl. Ebay Hills | 1bd/1ba 510-595-7699 Dave Higgins |
| 2017 107th Ave. Border San Leandro Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2bd/1ba 510-352-2898 David Kerr |
| 2323 Magnolia St. #12 (Loft) Oak Realty | LOFT 580-280-2185 Josh Levine |
| 3124 Coolidge Ave. Laurel/Fruitvale Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2bd/1ba 510-834-2010 Roxanne Wong |
| 2102 E. 24th St. Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3bd/3ba 510-292-2028 Andrea Ford Roberts |
| 4237 Sutter St. Lower Laurel Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2+BD/1BA 510-749-2003/1192 K. Garcia/S. Hamilton |
| 1742 E 12th Ave. Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3BD/2BA 510-338-1359 Michelle Vasey |
| 771 Kingston Ave. #402 Sun/1-5 Piedmont Border Executive | 2bd/2ba 510-435-6229 www.elenastone.com |
| 1322 E. 27th St. Mantel Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3BD/1BA 510-748-1127 Dobro Goodale |
| 4125 Culver Ct. Laurel Lower Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2bd/1ba 510-339-9290 Katie O'Shea |
| 1934 22nd Avenue East Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 6 BD 510-748-1196/748-1189 I. Arechiga/J. Collins |
| 260 Caldecott #219 Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2BD/2BA 510-339-0400 Adam Bette |
| 311 Oak St. Unit 710 Jack London Sq. Landmark R.E. | 1bd/1ba 510-731-0188 Bill Miller |
| 4501 Camden Wy Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3bd/1ba 510-292-2013 Todd Andrew |
| 543 Broadway Terr., #202 Rockridge Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2BD/2BA 510-338-1312 Martha Hostlaw |
| 6422 Benvenue Ave. Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2BD/1+BA 510-409-8111 Feri Niroomani |
| 736 56th North Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Gary & Noni Robinson |
| 844 55th St. No. Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2+BD/1BA 510-652-6537 Tom Nemeth |
| 4658 San Sebastian Ave Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2+BD/1.5BA 510-451-7317 x25 Michael Valva |
| 7601 Sterling Dr Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3BD/2BA 510-339-8900 Sheila Brox Crawford |
| 311 Oak St., #517 Jack London Sq. Oakland | 1BD/1.5BA 510-338-1374 Donna DeBardi |
| 720 58th St. Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2bd/1ba 510-280-2163 Charlie Cook |
| 220 Caldecott, #117 Claremont Hills Oakland | 2BD/2BA 510-338-1336 Jack McPhail |
| 9617 C St. Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 4BD/3 BA 510-486-1495 Laura Arechiga |
| 2644 Bartlett Ave. Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3BD/1BA 510-904-8518 Jena Mg |
| 3654 Lily St. Laurel Oakland | 2BD/1BA 510-338-1364 Cindy Houts |
| 9241 Thermal Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 4+bd/3ba 510-868-1487 Barbara Reynolds |
| 247 4th St #406 Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | Loft/1 full BA 510-336-9999 |
| 2621 Carmel Laurel Oakland | 2BD/2BA 510-338-1377 Lori Lombardo |
| 3243 Madeline Laurel Oakland | 2+BD/2BA 510-338-1316 Joan Dark |
| 4011 39th Ave. Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2BD/1BA 510-339-0400 Mavis Delacroix |
| 4419 Camden St Maxwell Park Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3BD/1.5BA 531-7000 x228 Kate Phillips |
| 4634 Allendale Ave. Oakland Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3BD/1BA 810-899-8000 Maria Sinclair |
| 2532 14th Avenue New Chinatown Prudential CA Realty | 4 BD/3 BA 510-337-8879 Lillian Liao |
| 571 Athol Ave. Haddon Hills Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Bonnie Ross/Monica Zuck |
| 2907 Montecito Ave. Maxwell Park Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3BD/1BA 510-339-9290 Hope Broderick |

| | |
|---|---|
| 565,000 7615 Circle Hill Road Oakland Kane & Associates | 3 BD/2 BA Sun 2-4:30 510-910-1443 Uli Irossi |
| 575,000 4170 Manila Open Sun 2-5 Pacific Union | 2+BD/1BA 510-338-1339 Gini Erick |
| 579,000 3957 Coolidge Oakland Coldwell Banker | 2BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Vicky Faulk |
| 579,000 462 Athol Ave. Harbor Bay Realty | 3BD/1BA 510-814-4897/514-4848 N. Mach/R. Liu |
| 580,000 4128 Fruitvale Upper Fruitvale Coldwell Banker | 2BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Adele Wong/Leslie Wei |
| 589,000 1947 Tiffin Rd Upper Diamond Wells & Bennett Realtors | 2BD/2BA 531-7000 x239 Don Dunning |
| 599,000 4130 Bayo Laurel Open Sun 2-4 Pacific Union | 2+BD/1BA 510-338-1329 Jeanine Weller |
| 599,000 4715 Davenport Redwood Heights Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 3+BD/1BA 510-338-1314 Sandi Klemmer |
| 599,000 5115 Coronado Ave. Rockridge Coldwell Banker | 3BD/2BA 510-339-4700 Victor Ratto |
| 599,000 5134 Daisy St. Open Sun 2-4:30 Upper Laurel Better Homes Mortclair | 3bd/1ba 510-482-9000 PatriciaBennett.com |
| 599,000 E. 38th St. Glenview Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 2BD/1BA 510-339-0400 Marlena Lyons/Kurt Buchholz |
| 619,000 4284 Atlas Ave. Redwood Heights Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker | 3BD/1BA 510-339-4700 Darcy Diamantine |
| 625,000 2411 Humboldt Ave. Duplex Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Mortclair | 510-339-4000 Jim Schubert |
| 625,000 3021 Richmond Blvd. Prudential CA Realty | 3 BD/1 BA 510-337-8670 Robert Pittman |
| 629,000 5147 Camden St. Maxwell Park Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3BD/1.5BA 531-7000 x277 Anne Manley |
| 635,000 482 Staten Ave #703 Lake Merritt Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage | 2BD/2BA 510-339-8900 Tom Erwin |
| 635,000 8324 Bryant Ave. Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors | 2BD/1BA 510-899-8000 S. Stratton/C. Breit |
| 649,000 3136 High Street West Oakland Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc. | 3 homes 510-748-1197/748-2003 J. Cerda-Zeln/K. Garcia |
| 649,000 4054 Forest Hill Rd. Oakmore Area Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Mortclair | 3bd/1.5ba 510-339-4567 Rosie Nysaether |
| 649,000 42 Spyglass Hill Oakland Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty | 2bd/2ba 510-280-2148 Francine DiPalma |
| 649,000 769-775-777 60th St. Tri-Plex Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | -BD/-BA 510-652-6537 Tom Nemeth |
| 650,000 635 Spruce St. Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty | 4bd/2.5ba 510-280-2189 Nicole Forte |
| 658,000 6756 Banning Dr. Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty | 3bd/2+1/2ba 510-280-2153 Izumi Tada |
| 659,000 4042 Canon Ave. Glenview Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Mortclair | 3bd/1.5ba 510-339-4000 Arnold Mueller |
| 659,000 5516 Merriewood Dr. Oakland Open Sun 2-4 Northbrae Properties | 2d/2ba 510-774-5927 Christian Thede |
| 675,000 1415 Barrows Road Trestle Glen Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential | 2BD/1BA 510-339-9290 Janet Flint |
| 688,000 78 Elysian Fields Dr. Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Mortclair | 3bd/2ba 510-339-4550 NahidNassiri.com |
| 689,000 1832 Mountain Blvd. Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker | 2BD/2BA 510-339-4700 Claudia Bowman |
| 694,500 4811 Telegraph Ave #508 Lawton Associates R.E. | 3BD/2.5BA 510-547-5970 x63 Keith Sjolund |
| 695,000 5671 Griffin Oakland Hills Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 3BD/2BA 510-338-1357 Francis Heath |
| 699,000 5463 Broadway Oakland Open Sun 2-4 Maison Nouveau | 2bd/1ba 510-849-9900 Heather Sittig |
| 700,000 820 Peralta St. Oakland Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc. | 4 BD/3 BA 510-748-1161 Jim Nations |
| 715,000 390 63rd St. Oakland Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty | 3bd/1ba 510-292-2011 Tim Cassidy |
| 719,000 4344 Anderson St. Redwood Heights Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 3+BD/2BA 510-339-0400 Dana Cohen |
| 725,000 250 Santa Clara Ave. Oakland Sat & Sun 2-4 Pacific Union GMAC | 3BD/2BA 510-220-2405 Julianne Chan |
| 725,000 351 Florence Marvin Gardens Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3bd/2ba kathieberg.com |
| 725,000 5156 Shafter Ave. Oakland Open Sun 2-4 Red Oak Realty | 2bd/1ba 510-280-2162 Saraya Motley |
| 739,000 3660 Calafia Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Mortclair | 3BD/2.5BA 510-899-6333 Ken Nwokedi |
| 745,000 6450 Mystic St. Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 2+BD/2BA 510-652-2133 Susie Schvelli |
| 749,000 101 Colgett Dr. Crestmont Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 3+BD/1BA 510-339-0400 Sherry Benninger |
| 749,000 59-61 Hamilton Place Oakland Open Sun 2-4 (Triplex) Adams Pl. Prudential | 4bd/3ba 510-428-0900 Judith Glass/Shelia Sabino |
| 749,000 6115 Merriewood Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 2BD/1BA 510-338-1355 Donna Costello |
| 749,000 6363 Aspinwall Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 3BD/2BA 510-338-1370 Shelia Gallagher |
| 749,000 709 Paloma Ave. Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Croker Highlands Wells & Bennett Realtors | 3BD/1+BA 531-7000 x292 Carol Robbiano |

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| 749,000 9110 Skyline Piedmont Pines Sun 1-5 Coldwell Banker | 4BD/2BA 510-339-4700 Donna Conroy/Jeffrey Neldeman |
| 749,500 482 Hiller Dr. Hiller Highlands Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 2+BD/2.5BA 510-339-0400 Susanne Paul |
| 765,000 350 Taurus Ave. Montclair Sat 1-4/Sun 2-5 Coldwell Banker | 4BD/3BA 510-339-4700 Ellen Lancaster |
| 769,000 3306 Herrier St. Redwood Heights Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage | 2+BD/2BA 510-339-8900 Vicky Friedman |
| 789,000 22 Keswick Ct. Oakmore Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker | 3BD/2.5BA 510-339-4700 Joan Alford/Preston Grant |
| 799,000 1871 Tiffin Oakmore Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker | 4BD/2.5BA 510-339-4700 Darcy Diamantine/List Bostick |
| 799,000 1906 Hoover Ave. Oakmore Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Mortclair | 4bd/2.5ba 510-482-9000 PatriciaBennett.com |
| 799,000 2747 Mountain Gate Oakmore Open Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Prudential | 3bd/2ba 510-339-9290 Janet Flint |
| 799,000 3081 Guido St. Redwood Heights Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Mortclair | 3bd/2ba 510-220-6407 Earle Shenk |
| 799,000 6130 Colby Rockridge Open Sun 2-5 Prudential | 3bd/2ba 510-428-0900 Vickie & Aleo |
| 799,000 653-655 65th St. Marvin Gardens Open Sun 2-4:30 Marvin Gardens | 2bd/2ba 510-527-2700-33 Richard Morrison |
| 799,000 7025 Pinehaven Rd. Montclair Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Prudential | 3bd/2+ba 510-339-9290 Laurel Strand |
| 825,000 955-957 Scott St. Marvin Gardens Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens | 2bd/1ba 510-524-0800 Darrell Hoh |
| 839,000 61 Schooner Hill Hiller Highlands Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker | 2BD/2.5BA 510-339-4700 Julie Joelle |
| 839,000 671 11th St. Wells & Bennett Realtors | 4 UNITS 531-7000 x295 Heldi Kearsley |
| 848,888 75 Starview Dr. Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors | 3BD/2.5BA 510-899-8000 Ron Reece |
| 849,000 149 Malden Lane Lincoln Heights Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential | 3BD/2BA 510-339-9290 David Otero |
| 849,000 2751 #D Chelsea Lane Oakland Open Sun 1:30-4:30 C21 Heritage | 4BD/2BA 510-339-8900 Sue Williams |
| 850,000 1100 Underhills Rd. Crocketer Highlands Open 2-4:30pm ERA Realty | 3BD/2BA 510-410-4917 Fred Brown |
| 850,000 6687 Chabot Rd. Rockridge Open Sun 2-5pm Coldwell Banker | 3BD/1.5BA 510-339-4700 Terry Kulkka/Christine Banker |
| 859,000 2700 8th Ave. Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Mortclair | FOURPLEX 510-899-6307 Michael Harding |
| 865,000 6114 Pinewood Rd. Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 3BD/2.5BA 510-339-0400 Chris Cohn |
| 899,000 618 63rd St. 3 Units - Tri-Plex Sun 2-5 Keller Williams Realty | 3 Units - Tri-Plex 925-330-4911 Victoria Addison |
| 879,000 88 Starview Hiller Highlands Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 3BD/2.5BA 510-338-1366 Joanna Hirsch |
| 899,000 1865 Manzanita Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 4BD/2.5BA 510-338-1359 Michelle Vasey |
| 899,000 4445 Evans Ave. Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential | 4+bd/2+ba 510-473-0259 Sandy W. |
| 899,000 6228 Ridgmont Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 4BD/3BA 510-338-1310 Robyn Mohr |
| 899,000 870 Sunnyhills Rd. Crocketer Highlands Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 3BD/2.5BA 510-339-0400 Angela Wei Grubbs |
| 925,000 6280 Viewcrest Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 4BD/3BA 510-338-1303 Wendy Gardner-Ferrari |
| 925,000 6820 Pinehaven Rd. Oakland Sat/Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker | 2BD/2.5BA 510-339-4700 Joan Duffield |
| 949,000 327-329 62nd St. Oakland Open Sun 1-4 Prudential | 2 Units 510-845-0211 Roy Grigsby |
| 979,000 6848 Armour Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 4BD/3.5BA 510-338-1305 Teri Carlisle |
| 985,000 1838 Grandview Dr. Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Alain Pinel Realtors | 3BD/2.5BA 510-899-8000 Michelle McKeown |
| 1,100,000 232 Pershing Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 3BD/2.5BA 510-547-5750 Helen Danahai |
| 1,180,000 5455 Bacon Oakland Open Sun 1-5 Pacific Union | 5+BD/4BA 510-338-1354 Jennie Flanigan |
| 1,195,000 9078 Broadway Terrace Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 3BD/2.5BA 510-338-1318 Dee Knowland |
| 1,280,000 472 41st Street Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Investco | 4 UNITS 510-834-9033 |
| 1,295,000 5110 Crockett Pl Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Better Homes Mortclair | 4BD/3.5BA 510-338-1318 Mary Jane McConville |
| 1,295,000 5927 Zinn Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 5BD/3BA 510-338-1318 Dee Knowland |
| 1,299,000 5601 Leona St. Leona Heights Coldwell Banker | 4BD/4BA 510-339-4700 Donna Conroy/Karyn Selby-Miller |
| 1,425,000 3299 Brunell Dr. Oakland Open Sun 2-5:00 New Spring Real Estate | 5bd/3.5ba 510-524-3510 Yehuda Ben-David |
| 1,480,000 447 25th St. Oakland Open Sun 2-4:30 Red Oak Realty | 4 Units 510-280-2113 Gerry Ploor |

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|---|---|---|
| Oakland | | |
| \$1,485,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 83 Castle Park Way Piedmont Pines | 3+BD/3.5BA 510-339-0400 Sandra Vogl |
| \$1,495,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 911 Larkspur Crocker Highlands | 4+BD/4BA 510-338-1331 David Ichikawa |
| \$1,499,000 Sat 2-4:30pm Coldwell Banker | 6171 Ruthland Rd. | 4BD/3BA 510-339-4700 James Brown |
| \$1,499,000 Open 2-4:30pm Coldwell Banker | 6267 Ruthland Rd. Montclair | 3BD/3.5BA 510-339-4700 David Eckert |
| \$1,625,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Wells & Bennett Realtors | 5132 Cochrane Ave Upper Rockridge | 3BD/2.5BA 531-7000 x242 Chris Christensen |
| \$1,635,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Gallagher & Lindsey, Inc. | 6095 Fairlane Dr. Montclair | 5BD/4.5BA 510-748-1806 Debbie Budd |
| \$1,699,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 2707 Camino Lenada Montclair | 4+BD/3BA 510-338-1331 David Ichikawa |
| \$1,750,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 24 N. Hill Ct. Claremont Hills | 5BD/4BA 510-339-0400 Carol Brown |
| \$1,795,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 5801 Buena Vista Ave. Rockridge (Upper) | 4BA/3.5BA 510-339-0400 Jill Carrigan |
| \$1,898,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Prudential | 5747 Buena Vista Ave. Rockridge (Upper) | 5BD/2+1/2BA 510-339-9290 Heldi Marchesotti |
| \$2,175,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 95 Westminster Drive Rockridge/Claremont Pines | 4+BD/3+1/2BA 510-339-0400 Debbi Dimaggio |
| \$2,245,000 Sun 2:30-5 Prudential | 162 Beechwood Dr. Rockridge/Claremont Pines | 4BD/4BA 510-428-0900 Beth Barger |
| \$2,395,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 C21 Heritage | 12667 Skyline Blvd. Hillcrest Estates | 4+BD/3BA 510-339-8900 Nicholas/J. Dworzak |
| Oakley | | |
| \$1,200,000 Sun 2-5:00 Prudential | 1100 Norwood Ave Trestle Glen/Glen View | Duplex 459-3029 Robert & Dolores |
| Orinda | | |
| \$1,790,000 Open Sun 1-4 Coldwell Banker | 20 La Cinitia | 4BD/3.5BA 510-547-1615 Jerilyn Babington |
| Piedmont | | |
| \$929,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 40 Fairview | 3+BD/2+BA 510-338-1374 Donna DeBardi |
| \$949,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 77 Wildwood Gardens | 3BD/2.5BA 510-339-0400 Debra Dryden |
| \$985,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 239 Park View Avenue | 3BD/1.5BA 510-339-0400 Linda McClain |
| \$1,295,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 206 Scenic | 3+BD/2.5BA 510-338-1382 Keith Tallas |
| \$1,395,000 Open Sat. & Sun. 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 958 Kingston | 4BD/2BA 510-338-1343/1313 KathleenCallahan/Sally Morrison |
| \$1,549,000 Open Sun 2-5 Pacific Union | 230 Highland Ave. | 3+BD/3BA 510-338-1348 FritzHochfelner/Roselle Woods |
| \$1,695,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 303 Hillside Avenue | -BD/-BA 510-339-0400 Mindy Scott |
| \$1,695,000 Open Sun 2-5 Prudential | 850 Highland | 4bd/3ba 510-428-0900 Judith Glass/Shella Sabine |
| \$1,985,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Pacific Union | 561 Blair Ave. | 4BD/3.5BA 510-338-1368 Ashley O'Neill |
| \$2,600,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 191 Sandringham Road | 5BD/3.5BA 510-339-0400 Helen Buty |
| \$3,850,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 393 Hampton Road | 4BD/4BA 510-339-0400 Anjan Pettit Tunney |
| \$ Call for Price Open Sun 2-4:30 The Grubb Co. | 109 St. James | 3BD/-BA 510-339-0400 Mindy Scott |
| Pinole | | |
| \$539,000 Open Sun 2-4:00 Marvin Gardens | 2157 Blue Jay Cir | 3bd/2ba 510-527-2700-33 Juliana Wymburg |
| \$648,000 Open Sun 2-4 Thornwall Properties | 3126 Avis Way Pinole Valley | 4bd/2ba 510-207-2968 Helen W. & Kathryn S. |
| Pleasanton | | |
| \$659,000 Open Sun 1-4 C21 Heritage | 220 Kottling Dr. | 2BD/1BA 510-339-8900 Diane Sass |
| Point Richmond | | |
| \$2,200,000 Open Sat. 1-4 Thornwall Properties | 401 Marine St. | 6+bd/6.5ba 510-915-2024 Nancy Foss |
| Richmond | | |
| \$299,950 Open Sun 1-4 Security Pacific | 639 37th St. | 2bd/1ba 510-662-8480 Michael J. |
| \$379,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 John Stasky & Co. | 3720 Esmond North&East | 2bd/1ba 510-525-8800 |
| \$399,000 Open Sun 2-4 Re/Max Executive | 332 35th St. North & East | 2bd/1ba 510-527-8545 Ury Beary |
| \$429,000 Open Sun 2-4 Marvin Gardens | 8920 Orchard Ave. Richmond Annex | 2bd/1ba 510-527-9111 Joan Underwood |
| \$445,000 Open Sun 2-4:30 Coldwell Banker Bartels | 2017 San Mateo St. | 2bd/2ba 510-303-8245 Sil Addiego |
| \$445,000 Sun 2-4 Berkeley Hills RE | 556 28th St. North&East | 2bd/1.5ba 510-524-9888 x12 Joan Brunswick |
| \$479,000 Sun 1-4:30 D&E Real Estate | 5326 Fleming Ave. | 4bd/1.5ba 510-232-6116/232-9674 Johnny Buzmet |

ALAMEDA



3225 STERLING AVENUE \$695,000
East End Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Remember the old neighborhood where neighbors looked out for each other, children played street tag and stray dogs always found their way home? You can have that again in this 3 bedroom, 1 bath charmer convenient to transportation, shopping, parks and schools. Features including natural wood built-in buffet & trim, eat-in kitchen, refinished hardwood floors and backyard perfect for gardening.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Kathy Ghiselli 510-748-1124



127 ORR ROAD \$718,000
Harbor Bay Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Contemporary, cheerful and sunny 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2-car garage home in Harbor Bay. Bamboo and wood floors, plantation shutters, central air and heat, dramatic 2-story living room with wood-burning fireplace. Short walk to beach and ferry. Great schools.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
Deva Park 510-748-1188



1425 BAY STREET \$575,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Great price for this very cute 2 bedroom cottage on a large lot; featuring formal living & dining rooms with hardwood floors & wood burning fireplace! A bonus sunroom offers plus space for reading, hobbies, playroom or home office & the nice deck off the sun room opens to a HUGE, beautifully landscaped private back yard with decks, patio & plenty of space for entertaining. Popular school area & excellent expansion potential.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ann Bracci 510-748-1807
Chih Wu 510-748-1162



2511 EAGLE AVENUE \$639,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 This home located at the East End of Alameda has been updated from top to bottom. Roof, foundation, carpets, plumbing, electrical, double pane windows, water heater are all new. 2+ bedroom and 2 bath home in a quiet cul-de-sac. Freshly painted interior and exterior. There is a private outdoor area for children to play, BBQ or enjoying your morning coffee.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Moon Tam 510-747-1620
Troy Staten 510-748-1125



1713 OAK STREET \$629,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 This 3+ bedroom and 1.5 bath home shows pride of ownership. This home supports a newer foundation, roof, gutters/downspouts, freshly painted throughout, new carpeting upstairs and the grounds have been freshly landscaped. It has a brick fireplace in living room. Close to transportation and Park Street. Move-in condition!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108



8 CERRUTI COURT \$765,000
Marina Village Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Hurry this property won't last long! This 3 bedroom, 2 full bath home is located on a quiet cul-de-sac with easy access to public transportation and shopping. Two great features for this property are wonderful oversized master suite and hardwood floors - this is just the beginning!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Bill & Griselda Bissett 510-748-1108

Gallagher & Lindsey

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ALAMEDA



1019 TAYLOR AVENUE \$839,000
West End Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Queen Anne ready to sparkle. Victorian legal duplex used as single family home with separate living unit. Many architectural details. 2 units, 2 kitchens, 2 living rooms, 2 full baths, 2 half baths, 2 garages, 4 bedrooms, high ceilings, tall windows, newly refinished wood floors. Many bonus rooms with room for expansion in full basement. Waiting for Victorian lover to restore its glory.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
Camice Seckendorf 510-748-1191



2152 BUENA VISTA AVENUE \$685,000
Central Alameda Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Prime location 2+ bedroom, 2 full bath Victorian. Beautifully landscaped back yard, full basement with legal height. Large yard, new interior/exterior paint. Close to park & Park Street Business district.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Eric Tam 510-748-1135
Steve DiGiulio 510-748-1171



1902 PARU STREET \$845,000
Marina Cove Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30
 Spacious contemporary home in Alameda's Marina Cove development. Less than 3 year old 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Large master suite. The laundry room is conveniently located on the second floor. Pristine general condition.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Rolando & Coqui Basora 510-748-1166



1415 LINCOLN AVENUE \$599,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 Must see home centrally located near shops, schools, parks & public transportation. This 2 bedroom, 1 bath home features newer paint, carpeted bedrooms, wood floors in living room, pargo floors in kitchen and attached bonus space to master bedroom! The stone fireplace with surrounding built-in bookshelves is perfect for cozy nights to curl up in front of the fireplace with your favorite book.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jose Cerda-Zeln 510-748-1197
Lisa Perry 510-748-1119

ALAMEDA



3817 LINCOLN AVENUE \$749,000
Central Alameda Open Sunday 2-4
 Totally remodeled inside 3 bedroom, 2 bath home! New exterior paint, hardwood floors throughout, central heating, newly landscaped front & back yard, new plumbing and unfinished dug-out basement. New kitchen with granite countertops; appliances included. All this home needs is furniture and a family!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Tom Burnett 510-748-1158



1804 NASON STREET \$729,000
Central Alameda Coming Soon
 Large 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath family home with 1888 sq ft of living space. Box beamed ceiling in dining room. Fireplace in living room and the Master bedroom is located on the first floor. Large closets and lots of storage space. New interior paint, newly refinished hardwood floors. Also has large lot for garden and play.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148



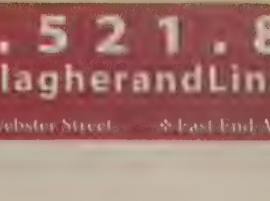
1713-1715 9th STREET \$890,000
West End By Appointment Only
 Two houses on one lot! Great opportunity! Front house is a 3 bedroom with large living room and formal dining room. Rear house is a 2 bedroom. Live in one - rent the other!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Alice Garvin 510-748-1116



950 SHOREPOINT COURT #101 \$425,000
Crown Beach By Appointment Only
 NEW LISTING! Fabulous upgraded 2 bedrooms, 2 bath condo near the beach. Newly painted and features newer appliances.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ruth Masonok 510-748-1101



1701 CENTRAL AVENUE #A \$407,000
Central Alameda By Appointment Only
 NEW LISTING! Single level 2 bedrooms, 2 baths corner condo in a prime location in Central Alameda. This is a must see!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ruth Masonok 510-748-1101



3 MASTICK COURT \$495,000
West End By Appointment Only
 A great starter home! Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow, plus den, in a cul-de-sac. Bright and cheerful, approximately 1,019 sq ft. Freshly painted bathroom, fenced rear yard, partially finished full basement for extra storage and attached garage. A diamond in the rough conveniently located in the East End
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Angela McIntyre 510-748-1121

ANTIOCH



4135 DONNER COURT \$590,000
Wild Horse Coming Soon
 Just imagine living in this beautiful 4 bed, 3 full bath home with extra bonus sitting room off the master bedroom! Located in the very desirable Wildhorse development, this home is loaded with fantastic upgrades and much more!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Darryl & Yolanda Freeman 510-748-1165

DANVILLE



647-649 DOUGLAS \$190,000
Elmhurst By Appointment
 This Duplex is ready to move in or just painted inside & out, new floor, countertops.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1189



6701 BLAKE STREET \$989,999
El Cerrito By Appointment Only
 2 HOUSES ON ONE LOT! Walking distance to BART and shopping. Back house divided into 4 unwarranted units with plenty of income. Front house is a beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath single family home.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Collins 510-748-1189
Shon Slaghter 510-748-1172

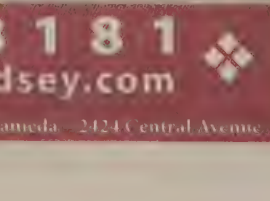
OAKLAND



1322 E 27th STREET \$495,000
Oakland Open Sat & Sun 10-1
 Move-in condition 3 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow with bay windows, decorative fireplace, extra large eat-in kitchen and artist studio in basement. Beautiful landscaped yard with redwood deck and home also features many upgrades.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Dobro Goodale 510-748-1127



1934 22ND AVENUE \$499,000
East Oakland Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Money - Money - Money! 6 bedrooms and big lot. Great price and close to everything!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1196
Jim Collins 510-748-1189

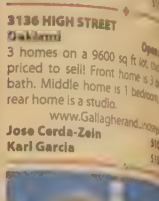


4237 SUTER STREET \$488,000
Lower Laurel Open Sat & Sun 1:30-4:30
 Come and view this 2+ bedroom, 1 bath home with large living room with fireplace, formal dining room, hardwood floors, low maintenance yard and close to transportation.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Karl Garcia 510-748-2003
Sandra Hamilton 510-748-1192

OAKLAND



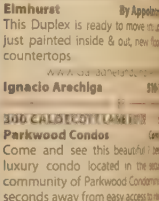
820 PERALTA STREET \$190,000
West Oakland Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 NEW 4 bedroom, 3 bath, 2 car garage home, offering features 10ft ceilings, granite counters, ceramic tiles, carpets and automatic gate. 10 minutes from BART to SF.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jim Nations 510-748-1189



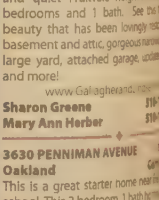
3136 HIGH STREET \$190,000
Oakland Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 3 homes on a 9600 sq ft lot, priced to sell! Front home is 3 bed, bath. Middle home is 1 bedroom, rear home is a studio.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Jose Cerda-Zeln 510-748-1197
Karl Garcia 510-748-1189



6095 FAIRLANE DRIVE \$190,000
Montclair Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 NEW LISTING! Sunny and bright 4+ bedroom home with bay bridge and Great backyard, gourmet kitchen, oak mantle, spacious closets, jacuzzi and much more!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Debbie Budd 510-748-1189



300 CALDECOTT LANE #101 \$190,000
Parkwood Condos Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Come and see this beautiful luxury condo located in the second community of Parkwood Condos, seconds away from easy access to the Caldecott Tunnel.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Darryl & Yolanda Freeman 510-748-1165



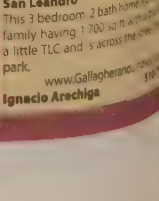
2107 ROSEDALE AVENUE \$190,000
Fruitvale By Appointment
 First time open this home is a quiet Fruitvale neighborhood, bedrooms and 1 bath. See the beauty that has been long neglected basement and attic, gorgeous hardwood large yard, attached garage, and more!
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Sharon Greene 510-748-1189
Mary Ann Herber 510-748-1189



3630 PENNIMAN AVENUE \$190,000
Oakland Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 This is a great starter home near school. This 2 bedroom, 1 bath home studio in back without permits.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1189



1439 ABBEY AVENUE \$190,000
Washington Manor Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 Desirable Washington Manor 3 bed, bath, 1241 sq ft on extra large lot. Hardwood floors under carpet, new paint. Updated kitchen with built-in oven, oak cabinets, lots of storage. Deck, workshop, loft in garage.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Pacita Dimacali 510-748-1148
Sonia Lastro 510-748-1189



1226 147th AVENUE \$190,000
San Leandro Open Sat & Sun 2-4
 This 3 bedroom 2 bath home, family having 1700 sq ft with a little TLC and a across the street park.
www.GallagherandLindsey.com
Ignacio Arechiga 510-748-1189

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SPORTS

• Friday, September 16, 2005 •

Section C

Around the horn

"Baseball As America"

"Baseball As America," a traveling exhibit organized by the National Baseball Hall of Fame, begins a four-month run at the Oakland Museum on Saturday. Event hours are Saturdays, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sundays, noon-6 p.m.; and Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. The exhibit will stay open the first Friday of every month until 9 p.m. "Baseball As America" will remain on view through Jan. 22. A related exhibit, "Oakland's Coach: The Legacy of George Powles," also will open Saturday and run through Feb. 26.

— Mike McGreehan

Multicultural baseball

KGO-TV sportscaster Martin Wyatt will interview Negro Leagues veteran Buck O'Neil in "Untold Stories: Baseball and the Multicultural Experience" at the Oakland Museum on Saturday, starting at 7 p.m. Writer Marcos Breton, photographer Jose Luis Villages and historian Kerry Yo Nakagawa also will discuss the history of Latin and Asian players. Tickets are \$10, \$8 for museum members.

— Mike McGreehan

100 and counting

St. Joseph Notre Dame girls volleyball coach Marcus Young picked up his 100th victory Saturday at the Newark Memorial tournament. The sixth-year coach helped the Pilots to a 5-0 record and the gold division crown. St. Joseph gave Young his 100th victory in the semifinals with a 25-20, 14-25, 15-13 win over Aragon-San Mateo. A Division IV team, the Pilots (7-1) beat Bay Shore Athletic League for Piedmont in the title game 25-17, 25-20. The Pilots also posted wins over American-Fremont, Arroyo-San Lorenzo and Washington-Fremont.

— Robert Jordan

Great start

The Piedmont High School football team got off to a good start as anyone could ask last Friday. In Piedmont's season opener, the Highlanders blanked visiting Northgate 30-0. The win was significant for several reasons. First, it's obviously always good to start the season off with a win. Second, the Highlanders were coming off a 2-7-1 season, which included a season-opening loss to the same Broncos. So, the Highlanders were able to gain some revenge while boosting their confidence. Third, it was the coaching debut of Doug Mandigo, who was hired last winter. He got his first win immediately. Lastly, establishing the run game is always important. After losing 1,000-yard rusher Austin Pugh to graduation, the Highlanders had big shoes to fill at running back. Peter Modera stepped in and ran for 164 yards on 20 carries, including two touchdowns.

— Dave Carpenter

New member

The Bay Shore Athletic League has a new girls golf member: Berkeley. The Yellow Jackets girls golf team is a supplemental member of the BSAL this season after competing in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League for the past two years. Berkeley was a supplemental member of the BSAL also in 2002. The Yellow Jackets finished second as a team in last year's ACCAL championships.

— Phil Jensen

On Deck

Football, Piedmont at Encinal, 3:30 p.m. today — Last season, Piedmont used a punishing running attack to rout the visiting Jets 33-8. The Highlanders ran for 190 yards on 50 carries. Piedmont is coming off a 30-0 win over Northgate. Encinal played Miramonte tough for a half before falling 36-13.

Boys Water Polo, Northgate at Alameda, 3:30 p.m., Sept. 23 — Coach Marshall Dortch and the rest of the Hornets open their schedule with a visit from the Broncos in a nonleague contest. Alameda is hoping to improve on a fifth-place finish at last year's Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League tournament.

Football, St. Mary's at El Cerrito, 6 p.m. today — The two rivals meet this year after winning their previous encounters. St. Mary's beat Moreau Catholic 32-16, and El Cerrito defeated Kennedy 46-6.

Volleyball, Bishop O'Dowd at Castro Valley, after junior varsity match (approx. 5 p.m.), Tuesday — The longtime rivals open Hayward Area Athletic League play.

Stars of the week

Jonathan Ve'e, Alameda football — Ve'e showed why he is one of the Bay Area's top-ranked linebackers, returning a fumble 47 yards to help the Hornets beat Bishop O'Dowd 14-13 on Saturday.

Kerri Sudarsana, St. Joseph Notre Dame girls volleyball — Sudarsana had 51 kills in five matches to help the Pilots claim the gold division at the Newark Memorial Tournament on Saturday.

Cyrus Grant, Encinal football — Grant ran for 100 yards on 16 carries, including a 13-yard touchdown scamper. The senior also had a 2-yard touchdown reception and picked up two sacks on defense in the Jets' 36-13 loss to Miramonte.

Don Miguel Tutass, El Cerrito football — Tutass completed eight of his nine pass attempts for 205 yards, three touchdowns and no interceptions in a 46-6 Gauchos win over Kennedy.

Jeremy Allen, St. Mary's football — Allen rushed for a game-high 177 yards and four touchdowns on 23 carries in the Panthers' 32-16 win over Moreau Catholic.

Jana Poole, Albany girls volleyball — Poole had 19 kills, 3 aces and 39 digs in the Cougars' 25-15, 25-21, 21-25, 25-22 victory over Carondelet. She also had six kills, five aces and 13 digs in Albany's 25-21, 25-15, 26-24 victory over Berkeley.

Louis Arnold, Bishop O'Dowd football — Despite missing most of the second half with cramps, the senior running back finished with 138 yards on 25 carries for the Dragons in a 14-13 loss to Alameda.

Albany pulls off early-season shocker

■ Cougars upset volleyball Division II powerhouse Carondelet in four games

By Phil Jensen

STAFF WRITER

The Albany High School girls volleyball team produced a huge early-season win on Sept. 8 when it defeated Carondelet 25-15, 25-21, 21-25, 25-22.

Carondelet, a perennial powerhouse, won the North Coast Section Division II title last year.

"I think it was great for our confidence. That is a good one to take into a (NCS) seeding meeting," Albany coach Jeff Barnes said. "It is a good win for the program."

Barnes said that Albany's serving was a key to the win.

"When we serve well, we are tough to beat," Barnes said.

Albany sophomore outside hitter

PREP GIRLS ROUNDUP

Jana Poole had 19 kills, 39 digs and three aces against Carondelet. Teammate Arlene Sasse had eight kills, two aces, 24 digs and five blocks. Albany also received six kills, five aces, six digs and four blocks from Nicky Hagan and five aces, 33 assists and 20 digs from Caitlyn Giblin.

The Cougars were 2-3 at the Deer Valley Invitational on Saturday, then beat Encinal 25-20, 25-22, 24-26, 25-7 on Tuesday. Poole had nine kills, two aces and 20 digs, and teammates Ruth Rossman and Hagan each had six kills. Glosa Marcon had 18 digs for Albany, which improved to 5-3 with the win.

Albany will host the Cougar Invitational this Saturday at the Bladium Sports Complex in Alameda.

St. Mary's d. Acalanes: Tarah Murray had 21 kills, four aces, three blocks and 15 digs in the Panthers'

25-19, 25-27, 25-18, 25-21 victory over Acalanes on Sept. 7. Teammate Natalie Bogan had eight kills, four aces, seven blocks and 16 digs. St. Mary's also received 12 assists and five digs from Cory Burgamy, and two aces, nine digs and 17 assists from Sarah Brakovich.

TENNIS

St. Mary's 4, Albany 3: The Panthers' No. 3 doubles team of Nicole Wilberding and Jennifer Magee won the deciding match Tuesday at Albany, as they defeated the Cougars' Alissa Drake and Hua Hu 7-5, 6-4. Albany's Elena Pan won the No. 1 singles match 6-7, 7-5, 6-3 over St. Mary's Christyn Richardson. St. Mary's improved to 2-1 overall and 1-0 in Bay Shore Athletic League action. Albany fell to 0-1 in BSAL play.

St. Mary's 7, De Anza 0: The Panthers' Richardson won the No. 1 singles match, 7-5, 6-3 over the Dons' Mutya Briones, in this nonleague sweep on Sept. 8.

GOLF

Berkeley 293, St. Mary's 297: The Panthers' Margo Winton was the medalist with a score of 11-over 42 but St. Mary's could not hold off the Yellow Jackets in a BSAL match Tuesday at Tilden Park Golf Course. Berkeley was paced by Carol Lee with a score of 51. With the loss, St. Mary's fell to 1-1 in BSAL action. It was Berkeley's first BSAL match of the season.

St. Mary's 291, St. Joseph Notre Dame 297: The Panthers were led by scores of 13-over 49 by Winton and 55 by Sarah McPherson in their victory over the Pilots on Sept. 8 at Tilden Park Golf Course.

CROSS COUNTRY

Jackie Quinn paced Albany Saturday at the Ed Sias Invitational with a 20th-place finish. Quinn crossed the finish line of the 2.03-mile girls race at Hidden Valley Park in Martinez with a time of 13 minutes, 36.3 seconds. Albany finished 17th as a team with 451 points.



EL CERRITO HIGH'S Darnell Quinney, left, runs for a big gain in his team's 46-6 blowout of Kennedy.

GREGORY UROUGAS/STAFF

El Cerrito coasts to victory

■ Gauchos score on their first seven possessions on the way to 46-6 rout of Kennedy

By Bill Kruissink

STAFF WRITER

In Saturday's season opener between the El Cerrito and Kennedy high school football teams, the statistics were deceptively close.

PREP BOYS ROUNDUP

The Gauchos racked up 345 yards of total yardage to the Eagles' 291. Eagles quarterback Royce Cunningham completed 14 passes for 173 yards, Gauchos quarterback Don Miguel Tutass completed eight passes for 205 yards.

But the statistics belie a different reality. El Cerrito scored a touchdown on each of its first seven possessions on the way to defeating host Kennedy 46-6.

The victory avenged the Gauchos' 22-20 loss to the Eagles in the 2004 season opener. That defeat was on the Gauchos' minds as the game began.

"It definitely was," said Tutass, who wound up completing 8 of 9 passes for 205 yards. "Last year I took a cheap shot and fractured my ankle. It was definitely frustrating. After that, we let down. We underestimated them."

"They won and we heard about it,"



ALBANY HIGH'S Ari Colby, left, tries to elude Richmond's Roy Blackshire. Richmond beat Albany 12-6.

DEAN COPPOLA/STAFF

El Cerrito coach George Austin said, "This is a rivalry. The kids all live in the same neighborhood."

The Gauchos' first touchdown came just over two minutes into the game when Tutass connected with Kaya Fitzgerald from 23 yards out for a 7-0 advantage. El Cerrito's last touchdown came with Tutass relaxing on the sidelines. With Lloyd Cunningham directing the offense, Dar-

nell Quinney finished a nine-play drive by going in from the 1 for a 46-0 lead. It was one of three rushing touchdowns in the game for Quinney. JoElbert Dennis led the Gauchos in rushing with 108 yards.

Berkeley 28, Rodriguez-Fairfield 7: Behind a combined 172 rushing yards from Dwayne Adams and Jamar Smith, the Yellow Jackets weathered some opening-week jitters to

score 21 of their 28 points in the second half as they defeated the visiting Mustangs on Saturday.

The final score wasn't representative of the effort put forth by the visiting Mustangs through the first half, as they battled the Yellow Jackets to a 7-7 tie at halftime. Neither team was able to gain more than 75

See BOYS, Page 2

ALBANY-BERKELEY STING SOFTBALL

DAVIS FAST PITCH TOURNAMENT
SEPT. 10-11

10-under

Sting Gold 10, Auburn Storm 6; Petaluma Steal Breeze 6, Sting Gold 5: In the first game, Sting Gold exploded for six runs in the third inning. Catherine Cove began the scoring when she knocked in Mia Jauregui with an infield single. Lindsey Baker drove in Katy Robinson, and Sarah Hoynes drove in Veronica Timpane. Kate Moore then blasted a two-run double up the middle, scoring Cove and Baker. Jauregui, who went 3-for-3 in the game, singled for the second time in the inning to score Hoynes. Sting pitcher Baker held the Storm scoreless in the third and Moore closed the fourth, fanning three batters. In the next game against the Petaluma Steal Breeze, Sting came back from a 5-4 deficit in the fourth inning to tie the game on a sharp RBI double by Moore, but Petaluma scored in the fifth to notch the victory.

Sting Gold 5, Auburn Storm 4;

With the game tied, Sting pitcher Moore notched two clutch strikeouts, the last with the bases loaded, to shut down the Storm. In the bottom of the same inning the game was still tied when, with two outs and the Stings' Annie Smith on second and Meg McCabe on first, Cove lofted a fly over the second baseman's head. Smith turned the corner at third and didn't slow down, beating the throw with a hard slide into home to score the winning run.

Napa Valley Express 9, Sting Blue 0; Sting Blue 7, Davis Lady Demons 6; Sting Blue 5, Roseville Thunder 0: A tied Sting team lost the first game, with only Clara Obstfeld getting on base with a single in the fifth inning. In the second game against the Lady Demons, Jordan Baker hit a RBI double to bring Ananya Ridley home. Mariella Cohen's RBI single brought Baker home. The Sting was trailing 4-2 in the third when Cohen's RBI double brought home Izzy Lubin-Brown, who had reached base on a single. In the top

of the fourth, Anna Moore singled and Cory Labov put down a beautiful bunt. Both eventually scored on Ananya Ridley's double. Baker's single brought Obstfeld and Ridley home. The third game against Roseville Thunder was a battle between two pitchers. Lubin-Brown pitched a no hitter. The Thunder's pitcher held up to the top of the fifth inning when she hit a batter. Cohen's single continued the rally. With the bases loaded, Lila Rosenfeld walked, bringing Lubin-Brown home for the Sting's first run. Baker's RBI single brought home Ridley and Labov for a 5-0 lead. Lubin-Brown struck out three players to finish the win.

Sting Blue 4, Unnamed Team 3; Benicia Outlaws 2, Sting Blue 1: In Sunday's first game, Sasha Kramer struck out three players in the first inning. Anna Moore's RBI triple brought home Ridley. In the second, Rosenfeld bunted to bring Labov home to tie the game at 2-2. With the bases loaded, Obstfeld threw to Baker on third to catch the runner off base for an impor-

tant out. Ridley's RBI single gave the Sting a 3-2 lead. After the Unnamed Team came back to knot the score at 3-3, the umpire ruled that an international tie-breaker would decide the game. Lubin-Brown struck out three batters in the Unnamed Team's half of the tie-breaker. With Ridley on second in the Blue's part of the tie-breaker, Anna Moore hit an RBI double to win the game. In the second game, Lubin-Brown started with three strikeouts. Moore hit an RBI double to bring in Ridley. Labov battled the pitcher twice with a total of nine foul balls. With no outs, Obstfeld threw a perfect ball to Mariella Cohen, who tagged the runner at third. Lubin-Brown continued with two additional strikeouts to lead Sting to the bottom of the sixth. Baker's base hit gave the Sting hope, but ultimately the team finished on the losing end to complete the tournament in third place.

12-under

Davis Lady Demons 14, Sting Blue 1; Los Gatos-Saratoga Magic

7, Sting Blue 6; Napa Express 13, Sting Blue 1; Sting Blue 7, Auburn Storm 5; Woodland Edge 15, Sting Blue 7: Sting Blue had a four-run lead in game two against the Magic, then lost despite a double by Fiona Riley and RBI doubles by Maggy Di Costanzo, Meagan Tokunaga, and Marisa Budlong. Budlong scored the Sting's sole run in game three when she was sent home by Di Costanzo's double. In game four, Katie Tick and Di Costanzo both hit two-run singles in the top of the first inning, giving the Sting enough of a lead to stay ahead of the Storm. Tokunaga and Tick each caught line drives and catcher Ellie Arkin caught a foul ball. The Sting was already down by 11 runs in the top of the first inning of game five against the Edge but rallied in the bottom of the third with Marina Hunt's hard-hit RBI single to center field and Di Costanzo's RBI double, also to center field. A well-timed fly ball caught by Tokunaga ended the Edge's hitting spree, and the Sting ended the game with a respectable seven runs.

Boys

FROM PAGE 1

yards in the half thanks to solid defensive efforts by both sides.

A 12-yard fumble return by Kenneth Adams opened the scoring for Berkeley in the first quarter. A 1-yard quarterback sneak by Troy Mineer in the second quarter provided the Mustangs with their score.

A 46-yard touchdown run by Smith gave the Yellow Jackets the lead with 5:14 left in the third quarter. On the very next drive, Adams found paydirt from 10 yards out. A 7-yard touchdown pass from Lucas Fogarty to Antonio Floyd late in the fourth quarter provided the final margin of victory for Berkeley.

St. Mary's 32, Moreau Catholic 16: The varsity debut of Panthers running back Jeremy Allen went better than anyone could have imagined. The junior plowed his way through the Mariners defense for 177 yards and four touchdowns on 23 carries in a decisive season-opening win for host St. Mary's on Saturday.

"Give it to my line," Allen said of his success on the ground. "They were awesome. Without them, I got nothing."

The Panthers scored on their opening drive in eight plays,

capped by Allen's 3-yard run up the middle as he dragged two defenders with him into the end zone.

They scored on their next drive after an interception by defensive back/quarterback Eric Merrida that led to a 95-yard touchdown pass by Merrida to running back Rolando Oliver two plays later. Allen continued to punish Mariners defenders in the second half, which began with the opening drive when he carried the ball four straight times for 60 yards and culminated with a 5-yard touchdown.

Richmond 12, Albany 6: When the host Oilers took the field to play the Cougars, anyone who knows the game of football could have noticed a look in some of the Richmond players' eyes that said, "We can do it." But when you've lost 39 games in a row, the feeling tends to be immediately followed by one of doubt.

There was no doubting the Oilers on Friday night in the teams' season opener.

Senior quarterback Chris Caluya connected with tight end Orlando Arnold for a 63-yard touchdown strike with 1:38 remaining to give the Oilers a 12-6 victory, their first in over four years.

After a first quarter in which neither offense was able to es-

tablish a consistent attack, Albany (0-1) struck first as defensive back Eric Roberson intercepted Caluya's first pass of the night and returned it 14 yards for the first Cougars touchdown of the season.

The Oilers knotted the score on a 38-yard reverse run by Quinton Buchanan right before the first quarter ended. The teams followed the flurry of points by going scoreless in the next two quarters. The fourth quarter brought a number of chances for each team, and it was the near-misses that Cougars coach Dan Shaughnessy lamented after the game.

"We had a lot of opportunities. Unfortunately we missed them. We just have to get back to practice," Shaughnessy said.

The final margin of victory was provided on an amazing individual effort by Arnold. On second-and-long, the Oilers called on Arnold as Caluya threw a jump ball in between three defenders. Arnold was able to leap just a few inches higher and refused to be taken down, breaking two tackles on his way to

making Oilers history.

CROSS COUNTRY

Matt Duffy paced St. Mary's at the Ed Sias Invitational on Saturday with a fourth-place finish in the boys small school race at Hidden Valley Park in Martinez. Duffy, a sophomore, finished the 2.03 mile course in 10 minutes, 53 seconds. Teammate Erick Berthaldan also had a top-10 finish, as he placed eighth in 11:10. St. Mary's finished fourth as a team with 161 points.

Led by an 10th-place finish by

senior Colin Bauer (11:13), Albany finished eighth in the same race with 203 points.

Times staff writers Gabe Feletar and Phil Jensen and correspondent Ben Enos contributed to this roundup.



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Movies

FROM PAGE C3

He agrees to travel to Belgium to kill two people before he retires. The first hit is relatively simple, but the second is impossible, involving a young girl. — M. Poir. (R: violence, sexuality and nudity, in Dutch and French with subtitles.) 2 hours. B

"MURDERBALL": The ferocity of competition in this gripping sports documentary on wheelchair rugby jumps anything you'll find on reality TV. A synthesis of basketball, hockey and rugby, the sport is played by paraplegic men, many disabled by catastrophic accidents during the course of life. Based on a magazine article by Dana Adam Shapiro, who co-directed the movie, "Murderball" is almost as tough as the relentlessly competitive players it profiles. — S. Holden. (R: abundant profanity and frank sex talk.) 1 hour, 26 minutes. C

"JUST LOVE DOGS": Diane Lane, the patron saint of women over 35, plays a divorcee reluctantly stepping back into the dating world. John Cusack and Dermot Mulroney are her suitors. One glance at the movie's poster gives away the victor. There's some charming material in here about mature romance, but also a lot of typical romantic comedy drivel, including one pointless slapstick moment Lane should have flatly refused to do on the grounds that it insults her intelligence and ours. — M. Poir. (PG-13: some sexual content.) 1 hour, 38 minutes. C

"PRETTY PERSUASION": In this broad satire, cool and beautiful 15-year-old Kimberly Joyce (Evan Rachel Wood) attends the Roxbury Academy in Beverly Hills, a monomaniacal to privilege where the rich pay kids to dump their unloved kids. Her dad (James Woods) is an earnest pig-on-wheels. Absentee mom misspells Kimberly's name and gets her age wrong on a birthday card. Her stepmom is a human Barbie doll. It's no surprise when Kimberly devises a splashy way to lash out. — C. Chocano. (Not rated: containing nudity, strong coarse language and sexual themes.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. C

"RED EYE": In Wes Craven's air-averse thriller, Lisa (Rachel McAdams) finds herself seated next to the charming fellow she met in the Dallas airport (played by Cillian Murphy). But upon takeoff, he reveals that her father will be killed unless she helps him assassinate a

government official. Once the ominous tone is set, this claustrophobic scare-fest never loses altitude. — B. Strauss. (PG-13: intense sequences of violence and language.) 1 hour, 25 minutes. B

"REEL PARADISE": This documentary follows John Pierson, the wiry, knobby gadabout and sometime guru of American independent film, and his family to a rural Fijian island. While living there for a year, Pierson showed free movies in what he hyperbolically calls the world's most remote movie theater. The film is part family diary, an exploration of in-familiar cultures, and a meditation on the impact of movies on a population unfamiliar with modern mass media. — S. Holden. (R: strong language.) 1 hour, 50 minutes. B+

"THE SKELETON KEY": Louisiana's bayou backdrops and hoodoo machinations can't disguise what is an ordinary haunted house yarn. Kate Hudson is the star assigned to wander through dark places while strange things occur. Hospice worker Caroline Ellis (Hudson) takes an in-home position at an estate to care for Ben Devereaux. The skeleton key that Ben's wife gives her for access in the mansion opens every door... but one. — S. Persall. (PG-13: violence, disturbing images, partial nudity, mature themes.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. C

"SKY HIGH": For Will Stronghold, it seems that everyone at his new high school is cooler than he is; maybe that's because they have superpowers. Sky High is where superheroes send their kids to learn how to use their abilities. But despite being the son of two superheroes, (Kurt Russell and Kelly Preston), Will can't leap tall buildings in a single bound or do anything else particularly impressive. — N. Churnin. (PG: action violence, some mild language.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. B+

"A SOUND OF THUNDER": It's 50 years in the future, and Ben Kingsley plays a man running a Time Safari business, sending people into the past to hunt dinosaurs. Edward Burns is the Great White Hunter-scientist who heads these "expeditions," always to the same tar pit, where the same Allosaurus is killed with ice bullets that leave no trace. Visitors must stay on a liquid-looking time-sidewalk; otherwise, "You mess with the whole of evolution." Well, somebody doesn't watch his step. — R. Moore. (PG-13: sci-fi violence, partial nudity, language.) 1 hour, 45 minutes. D

"STAR WARS: EPISODE III — REVENGE OF THE SITH": To see George Lucas finally knit together

his six-part "Star Wars" saga is an unexpectedly moving experience. He's still clumsy in the human interaction department, and Anakin Skywalker's (Hayden Christensen) transition to the dark side is a little quick, but we feel it. May be too sad and disturbing for youngsters. — M. Poir. (PG-13: sci-fi violence, intense images.) 2 hours, 20 minutes. B

"TONY TAKITANI": A clothing obsession becomes a profound existential predicament. Tony Takitani, for most of his life, has mistaken loneliness for independence. Now middle-aged, he realizes he's completely alone. Then he meets a woman, Eiko, whom he invites to lunch and soon asks to be his wife. Not only is she pretty and 15 years younger, but she has an extraordinary fashion sense. — W. Morris. (Not rated; in Japanese with subtitles.) 1 hour, 15 minutes. C-

"TRANSPORTER 2": This laughably awful sequel has Jason Statham reprise his role as Frank Martin, the crackjack no-questions-asked driver for hire. This time, Frank has moved to Miami, where he lives the quiet life as chauffeur to a 6-year-old, a rich kid with whom the former mercenary has forged a bond. Then, of course, the boy is kidnapped, forcing Frank to resume his fightin' ways to rescue his little buddy. — D. Germain. (PG-13: intense sequences of violent action, sexual content, partial nudity, brief language.) 1 hour, 28 minutes. D

"2046": Writer-director Kar Wai's Wong's rendering of 1960s Hong Kong is visually mesmerizing, but beneath the surface, there's little substance to the characters or situations. Tony Leung reprises his role from "In the Mood for Love" as Mr. Chow, formerly an idealistic newspaper editor who now writes soap fiction just to scrape by. The film follows him as he hooks up with various women he meets while living at a hotel — the rotating inhabitants of room 2046. — C. Lemire. (R: sexual content; in Cantonese, Japanese and Mandarin with subtitles.) 2

hours, 9 minutes. B-

"UNDERCLASSMAN": Nick Cannon stars as rookie bike cop Tre Stokes, who goes undercover at a predominantly white Los Angeles private school to investigate a student's murder. Cannon is too baby-faced to be a believable police officer, and it doesn't help that the movie's direction is pedestrian, or that the script consists of little more than tired racial jokes and fish-out-of-water gags. — C. Lemire. (PG-13: violence, sexual references, drug material and some teen drinking.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. D

"UNDISCOVERED": Tailored for the readership of Teen People, this movie follows the career ups and downs of a group of pretty — and pretty vacant — Los Angeles model-musician-art-hyphenates. With Ashlee Simpson among them. — M. O'Sullivan. (PG-13: Some obscenity, a drug reference, sexual references.) 1 hour, 32 minutes. D

"AN UNFINISHED LIFE": Robert Redford plays Einer, who lives in Wyoming on a nearly deserted ranch, with only his old friend and former employee Mitch (Morgan Freeman) for company. Mitch was attacked and essentially crippled by a grizzly the year before our story begins. When the bear returns, the two men don't see eye to eye on how to handle it. Then along comes Jennifer Lopez as Einer's widowed daughter-in-law. — M. Poir. (PG-13: some violence, including domestic abuse, and language.) 1 hour, 47 minutes. C+

"VALIANT": While this animated feature already was a solid box-office draw in Britain, the World War II theme of homing pigeons doing their part for the Allied effort may prove dry for U.S. family audiences. The movie tells a standard small-fry-turned-hero story as undersize birdie Valiant catches patriotic fever and enlists in the Royal Homing Pigeon Service. Voiced by Ewan McGregor, Ricky Gervais, Tim Curry, Jim Broadbent. — D. Germain. (G) 1 hour, 20 minutes. C

Events

EAST BAY

AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM AND LIBRARY AT OAKLAND — The museum is designed to discover, preserve, interpret and share the cultural and historical experiences of African Americans in California and the West. In addition, there is a three-panel mural on permanent display.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS — "Trying to Find My Way Home: A Black Male Speaks of the Father," June 4 through Sept. 24. An exhibit of large-scale mixed-media works by Milton Bowers that explore the stereotypes and urban myths associated with the absent African-American male, the separation of the family and the consequences for the community. Free. Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 5:30 p.m. 659 14th St., Oakland (510) 637-0200 or www.oaklandlibrary.org

ALAMEDA MUSEUM — Ongoing. The museum offers permanent displays of Alameda history, the only rotating gallery showcasing local Alameda artists and student artwork, as well as souvenirs, books and videos about the rich history of the island city. Free. Wednesday through Friday, 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, 1:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. 2324 Alameda Ave., Alameda. (510) 521-1233 or www.alamedamuseum.org

BADIE MUSEUM AT THE PACIFIC SCHOOL OF RELIGION — The museum's collections include the Tell-on-Nasbeh Collection, consisting of artifacts excavated from Tell-on-Nasbeh in Palestine in 1926 and 1935 by William Badie, and the Howell Bible Collection, featuring approximately 300 rare books (primarily Bibles) dating from the 15th through the 18th centuries.

SPECIAL EXHIBIT — "Wholly Grace," July 7 through Sept.

29. A solo exhibit of clay works by Susan Duhan Felix. Talk and Tour, Sept. 16, 1 p.m. Free. Tuesday and Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Harbor Hall, Pacific School of Religion, 1708 Soan Ave., Berkeley. (510) 848-0528 or <http://bade.psr.edu/bade>

EBONY MUSEUM OF ARTS — Ongoing. A museum specializing in the art and history of Africa. The collection, which was on display in the museum's Jack London Village branch, has been incorporated with the material in the 14th Street Victorian Museum building, the site of the original museum. Free admission; \$2 guided tour. Tuesday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1034 14th St., Oakland. (510) 763-0141

GOLDEN STATE MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM — Ongoing. The museum features extensive displays of operating model railroads constructed and operated by the East Bay Model Engineers Society. Covering some 10,000 square feet, steam and modern diesel-powered freight and passenger trains operate in O, HO and N scales on separate layouts as well as narrow gauge and trolley lines. Of special interest is the Tehachapi Pass and Loop on the N-scale layout showing how the multiple engine trains traverse the gorges and tunnels, passing over themselves to gain altitude to cross Tehachapi Summit just east of Bakersfield. The layouts include such famous railroad landmarks as Niles Canyon, Donner Pass and the Oakland Mole where transcontinental passengers were ferried across San Francisco Bay from their arriving trains. Free on Saturday, \$3 general; \$2 seniors and children under age 12; \$7 families on Sunday, Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. Miller-

See EVENTS, Page C8

THERE IS MORE THAN ONE WOMAN
who knows that stressed is desserts spelled backwards

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THE DINING GUIDE

Featured Menu



KAMAKURA

Daily 5:00pm - 10:00pm Mon - Sat 11:30am - 2:30pm

Please visit our Web site at kamakurarestaurant.com

LUNCH MENU

(This is not the complete menu)

LUNCH PLATES with rice and miso soup

| | | |
|------------------|--|------|
| Tempura | Prawns and vegetables battered and deep fried | 6.25 |
| Chicken Teriyaki | Grilled chicken, with or without skin and teriyaki sauce | 5.25 |
| Salmon Shioyaki | Fresh salmon filet, lightly salted and grilled | 6.50 |

DONBURI served in a bowl over rice with miso soup

| | | |
|-----------------|--|------|
| Tempura Donburi | Tempura and special donburi sauce | 6.25 |
| Katsu Donburi | Pork cutlet, egg and special donburi sauce | 6.25 |
| Oyako Donburi | Chicken, egg and special donburi sauce | 5.95 |

SUSHI LUNCH COMBINATIONS served with miso soup

| | | |
|--------------|--|------|
| Sushi Sakura | Tuna roll and five pieces assorted sushi | 7.95 |
|--------------|--|------|

COMBINATION PLATES includes rice and miso soup

| | | |
|---------|------------------|------|
| Tempura | Beef Teriyaki | 8.95 |
| | Chicken Teriyaki | 8.25 |
| | Salmon Teriyaki | 9.25 |

Tempura/Sashimi

| | | |
|-----------------|--|------|
| Tempura/Sashimi | | 7.95 |
|-----------------|--|------|

Kamakura "Box" Lunch Special with tempura, yakitori, California roll, edimame, soup and salad

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|------|
| Kamakura "Box" Lunch Special | | 7.95 |
|------------------------------|--|------|



Sushi House

japanese restaurant & sushi bar
Beautiful Alameda Location Over Looking Water

Business Hours
Sunday - Thursday
From 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM
Friday & Saturday
From 11:00 AM to 10:30 PM

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www.e-sushihouse.com

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fax: 510-865-2404

Avoid waiting! Fax in your order in advance!

Cafe Enrico

Since 1978, 875D Island Drive, Alameda, (510) 522-0128

For fine Italian dining at it's best, visit Cafe Enrico overlooking the beautiful Harbor Bay lagoon. Full bar service features special cocktails daily with exceptional wine selections. From gourmet seafood plates to Old World pastas, chicken dishes, sandwiches and even a dieter's menu, Cafe Enrico truly offers something to please everyone. In fact, many guests dine in two and three times a week. Enrico's famous Lobster Tail Dinner (\$20.95 after 6 pm) and house specialty steamed (Manila clams and fresh seafood cioppino) are not to be missed. Cafe's Enrico is open daily Sat & Sun Brunch is served until 3 pm and Early Bird Specials (12.95) are served Mon-Fri until 6 pm and Sat & Sun until 5 pm. For Reservations, please call (510) 522-0129, M.C. Visa, AME, handicap access. Casual attire. \$\$

El Caballo

891B Island Drive (Harbor Bay Island), Alameda, (510) 521-4032

Family-owned El Caballo Mexican Restaurant has had a long-standing reputation for preparing delicious traditional dishes from scratch using nothing but the freshest ingredients of the highest quality. El Caballo is famous for their Especialidades De Mariscos (seafood specialties) including Paella Estilo Catalina, Cioppino Siere Madres, Enchiladas Cabo San Lucas, and many others. In addition to delicious seafood entrees, El Caballo offers an impressive menu of Mexican favorites to please every palate. The family and staff at El Caballo have made it their utmost priority to offer you, their guests, a pleasant and relaxing dining experience. You are invited to enjoy authentic Mexican dining with a view over beautiful Harbor Bay Lagoon.

Juanita's

1324 Park Street, Alameda (510) 865-2588

Juanita's has been serving home style Mexican cooking since 1975 to generations of Bay Area diners. Patrons enjoy a margarita or cold cerveza at Juanita's with their choice of delicious Mexican appetizers and entrees. Including everyone's favorite - tacos, enchiladas, and fajitas. AC \$\$ FB W

Katsu Sushi

1465 Webster Street, Alameda, (510) 749-8461

West Alameda's newest restaurant, Katsu Sushi, invites guests to an upscale dining experience with classic simplicity. Chef Sang Kim prepares all dishes from scratch and seafood is brought in fresh, directly from Japan. The menu is extensive, ranging from an extraordinary selection of sushi and sashimi, Udon/Soba, Donburi (over rice dishes), to pasta and an impressive variety of sake. Architect Duk Lee has created a dramatic backdrop for guests, marrying modern art with traditional design elements. Attention to even the most minor aesthetic detail is also mirrored in the elegant presentation of Katsu's dishes, offerings that are as much a work of art to the palate as to the eye. Katsu is open for lunch M-S from 11:30am to 2:30pm and open for dinner every day from 5-9:30pm. Reservations recommended.

Montclair Bistro

6118 Median Place, Montclair Village, (510) 482-8282

Chef Henry Vortriede's philosophy of his restaurant, Montclair Bistro, is Metrix Cuisine, which he finds is "a synergy between the food on the table, the art on the walls, and the ambience of the restaurant. The result is a feeling of comfort and harmony between the food and the surroundings". The Bistro's cuisine is Creative California with a French Flare and offers gourmet delicacies for even the most discriminating palate. The dining experience is enhanced with a full bar and more than 150 wines and Vintage Ports. Montclair Bistro offers lunch, dinner, Happy Hour and Sunday Brunch. Please visit our ad for hours of operation. Reservations are recommended but not required. Visit www.montclairbistro.com.

Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant

300 - 29th Avenue, Oakland (510) 261-1621

Good food, friendly service, and comfortable atmosphere describe Pier 29 Waterfront Restaurant. For over 30 years the restaurant has been located adjacent to the Park Street Bridge overlooking the Alameda/Oakland estuary. The "Pier" offers an extensive menu featuring fresh seafood, Angus New York steak, prime rib, pasta, teriyaki ribs, daily specials, and much more. The theme in the kitchen is "good homestyle cooking." Brunch is served on weekends from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and the popular early bird menu is featured daily. Every table has a view of the water and there is plenty of free parking. The Pier is open 7 days a week. New business hours: Sun. - Thurs. 9 a.m. - 10 p.m., Fri. - Sat. 9 a.m. - 11 p.m., Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner.

Sophia Cafe

1247 Solano Ave., Albany (510) 526-8663

Sophia Cafe is a tiny haven for Midwest food. Owner Mori Dagan makes entrees and baked goods with a personal touch. For dinner enjoy schnitzel, moussake (sliced eggplant dish with ground beef) or the cous cous plate. Finish with a delightful dessert made in-house. For a limited time, enjoy early bird specials for only \$7.95. Offer valid only with mention of ad from 5-9pm. Take out and catering menus available upon request. Open Sun-Fri 11-9pm.

Sushi House

2375 Shoreline Drive, Alameda (510) 865-0999

When it comes to sushi, one place on the island comes to mind. Come experience why locals & out-of-towners alike flock to Sushi House. Whether you're a fan of modern or traditional Japanese cuisine, Sushi House will delight your senses w/unique, award-winning sushi creations not found elsewhere on either side of the Bay. You've tried the rest. Now try the best! All seafood is delivered daily to ensure unrivaled quality & freshness. Showcasing these excellent beginnings are chef/owner James' own creations such as "Crazy Horse" - tuna, hamachi, salmon & avocado; "Crazy Monkey" - yellow tail, salmon, eel, tobiko and cucumber; & "Dynamite" - yellow tail, salmon, tuna & halibut deep fried w/house special sauce - spicy! Frequent Sushi House diners John & Sallie Crittenden agreed that "James is a real artist & his sushi is the freshest we've ever tasted." Sushi House is open nonstop from 11 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday & 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday & Saturday. Plenty of free parking. From an intimate date to a big celebration, Sushi House is the hip & trendy place to be in Alameda! AE MC V\$ \$S

Sophia Cafe

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Early Bird Special
\$7.95

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SUSHI

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Dinner

Mon-Thur & Sun 5-9:30pm

Fri & Sat 5-10pm

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1465 Webster Street

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Café Enrico

Italian Restaurant

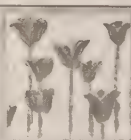
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At the foot of the Park St. Bridge in Oakland. Next to B. Estuary
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THE DINING GUIDE

Featured Menu

KAMAKURA

鎌倉

SPECIAL ROLLS

| | | |
|-------------------|--|-------|
| Passion Roll | Eel tempura roll wrapped with maguro, sake and hirame with special sauce | 12.95 |
| Alaskan Fantasy | Crab, avocado, salmon, tempura style with passion sauce | 12.95 |
| Atkins' Roll | Maguro, hamachi, salmon, assorted vegetables wrapped in soy paper | 12.95 |
| Raider Roll | Broiled unagi (eel) layered over double shrimp tempura roll | 12.95 |
| A's Roll | Tempura salmon, avocado, cucumber and soy paper | 7.95 |
| Caterpillar Roll | Layered avocado over Unagi roll | 9.25 |
| Philadelphia Roll | Cream Cheese, smoked salmon, avocado | 1.50 |

SUSHI BAR SPECIALS

| Nigiri Sushi | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Toro | Bluefin fatty tuna belly | Seasonal |
| White Tuna | Albacore | 3.75 |
| White Tuna | with special garlic sauce | 4.00 |
| Katsuo | Seared bonito tuna | 4.25 |
| Anago | Broiled sea eel | 4.25 |
| Tai | Red snapper | 4.25 |
| Anikimo | Monkfish liver pate | Seasonal |
| Crazy Tobiko | Flying fish roe marinated in wasabi | 3.75 |
| Maki Sushi (Roll Sushi) | | |
| Hollywood Roll | Tuna, avocado, cucumber, tobiko | 4.95 |
| Crab Tempura Roll | Tempura crab, avocado, cucumber | 7.25 |
| California Roll | Crab and avocado | 3.75 |
| Unakyu | Eel and cucumber rolled inside out | 4.00 |

DINNER MENU

| SASHIMI Sliced raw fish | | |
|--|--|-------|
| Chirashi Sushi | Assorted sashimi over rice (Yellow tail, red & white tuna) | 13.95 |
| *all red add 1.50 | | |
| TEMPURA Lightly battered and deep fried | | |
| Tempura Deluxe | Prawns and Vegetables | 9.95 |
| APPETIZERS | | |
| Agedashi Tofu | Deep fried tofu in sauce | 3.95 |
| Yakitori | Three skewers of grilled chicken | 4.50 |
| Miso Soup | | 1.25 |
| Salad w/Kamakura's special miso dressing | | 1.25 |

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Angela's

807 Marina Village Pkwy, Alameda (510) 522-5822
Voted Best Chef in Alameda for 2004, chef Saboor Zafari creates a symphony of culinary delight in every dining experience at Angela's. Zafari prepares all his recipes from scratch daily, gathering fresh, organic ingredients from local farmers' markets in and around Alameda. Also voted Best Wine List for 2004, Angela's offers a marvelous menu of wines to compliment your experience. Visit Zafari and the superb staff at Angela's for an Alameda fine-dining experience with candle-lit ambience.

El Caballo Wraps

1108 Lincoln, Alameda, (510) 521-6257
El Caballo Wraps Gourmet Mexican Cuisine is an unexpected treasure in the heart of Alameda. Located on Lincoln Ave. next to Paganos Ace Hardware, El Caballo Wraps is the East Bay's answer to fresh, homemade, gourmet Mexican fare with a sophisticated twist. The menu is impressive, including old recipe soups, fresh gourmet salads, seafood, tacos, Mexican specialties and more. Amongst the gourmet specialties at Wraps is the "Superb Seafood Wrap", a flavorful combination of grilled snapper, shrimp sautéed with salsa fresca and chipotle sauce, served with cilantro rice, beans, sweet yellow corn and guacamole. Barbeque wraps and breakfast wraps are also served all day. For those who want something other than a wrap try one of Wraps' many Mexican classic platters or a la carte items. Vegetarian plates are also available. Open Mon-Sat 9-9 and Sun 10-6, 1108 Lincoln Ave., Alameda. (510) 521-6257. Catering, to-go and delivery also available.

Café Ya 'sou

1265 Harbor Bay Parkway #100, Alameda, (510) 522-7991
Café Ya 'sou takes guests on a culinary journey to the Mediterranean, bringing the flavors of Greece and her neighbors to Alameda. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, Ya 'sou has a reputation of pleasing guests with old-fashioned Greek specialties created by Stelios. Try one of many home-style entrees, including Moussaka, Spanikopita, Tiropitakia, Osso Buco, and Dolmas (Greek sampler) to name only a few. Vegetarian entrees are available upon request. Greek desserts, cakes pastries from old family recipes are not to be missed. Catering is also a specialty at Café Ya 'sou, offering delicious sit-down or buffet-style dinners for private parties, corporate events, weddings and more. A catered Sunday brunch can be arranged for your church or community center. Café Ya 'sou is located at 1265 Harbor Bay Pkwy #100 in Alameda. (510) 522-7991.

Kamakura

2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda (510) 521-9121
Faith Yamato and the chefs of Kamakura present SHARI, the highest quality of rice that envelopes Sushi. The best short grain premium rice available in the USA is used for Kamakura's Sushi. The "Tamanishiki" brand of rice definitely provides the decisive edge in Sushi quality and taste. Following centuries old Japanese culinary practice, the rice is gently steamed, then seasoned with an aged-vinegar blend, and carefully fanned to cool to achieve the perfect, firm, yet moist texture, pliable but not sticky; there is no shortcut. For authentic, delectable Sushi and original Japanese creations, dine-in, take-out and party catering, visit or contact Kamakura Restaurant, 2549 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda, (510) 521-9121. Wheel chair access, accepting Visa, MasterCard, AMEX, Discover. Open for Lunch Mon. - Sat. 11:30-2:30; Dinner served daily 5pm-10pm.

La Pinata 3

1440 Park St., Alameda (510) 769-9111
La Pinata 3 has been indulging the Bay Area since 1978 with authentic, delicious Mexican cuisine. In 2005, La Pinata 3 introduced their Taco Bar, offering authentic Mexican tacos prepared the old-fashioned way, with traditional ingredients. In addition to Pinata 3's impressive menu, including Albondigas (meat ball soup), traditional Mexican breakfasts, and the famous Whole Red Snapper, delectable homemade pastries (desserts) and after dinner drinks are not to be missed. Perhaps most impressive about La Pinata 3 is the popular Tequila Bar. Serving the largest variety of 100% Agave tequilas in Alameda, and perhaps the entire East Bay, the tequila bar at La Pinata 3 is guaranteed to turn you in to a return guest. La Pinata 3 is open daily from 7am to 3am, and Happy Hour is from 4-5pm M-F. Weekend Specials and a \$9.50 Sunday Brunch are also available. www.lapinata.com. (Look for La Pinata #6 opening mid-August in Concord with 2 tequila bars!)

Sabuy Sabuy II

1233 San Pablo, Berkeley (510) 528-3932
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Delicious Meat and Vegetarian Dishes

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Specials Starting at \$5.95

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"We Are The Tequila Experts!"

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

MAKING A LEFT BY PATRICK BERRY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

- 1 Much-used engine
7 Spring from a bed
12 "Twin Peaks" victim ____ Palmer
17 Nose-puckering, in a way
18 See 37A
21 Lay concern?
22 Palmist's purpose
25 Diplomatic success
26 Comenca Park team
27 Ab ____ (from the beginning)
30 Some Ouija answers
31 Inhuman
35 Dog in Francis Barraud's painting "His Master's Voice"
37 With 59A, 18D and 18A, what these answers show
41 "____ Enchanted" (Newbery-winning book made into a 2004 film)
42 Troubled
43 No longer reliant on mother
44 Where many herds are seen
47 Greases
48 Flamed reaction

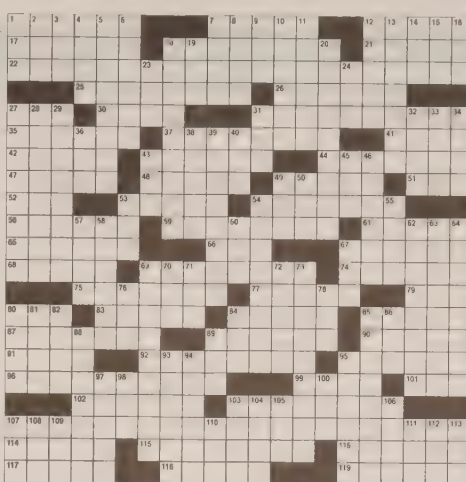
- 49 Within walking distance
51 Fix a track
52 Practicing grp.
53 Somewhat, slangily
54 "Goodness! Had Nothing to Do With It!" autobiographer
56 Many a computer icon
59 See 37A
61 See 62D
65 "Stop that!"
66 Overly glib
67 Borrower
68 With 27D, what these answers show
69 See 92A
74 Crave
75 Drank some coffee, say, with "up"
77 Long arm
79 Yossarian's roommate, in "Catch-22"
80 Mr.'s holding
83 "Two Women" star
84 "A ____ santé!"
85 Educator Montessori
87 Sandwich's title?
89 Enter all at once
90 Ancient Mexican
91 ____ function
92 With 69A and 69D, what these answers show
95 Certifiable
96 Musical wounding
99 Marvin Gaye's ____ "That Peculiar"

- 101 Old Ford
102 Window flankers
103 No longer with us
107 Disaster coverage?
114 "Almost Famous" director, 2000
115 Confirms
116 Kint up again
117 While away
118 "In dreams begin responsibility" writer
119 Hose

DOWN

- 1 Student's stat.
2 Lord's Prayer starter
3 Giant at Cooperstown
4 Photomap overlay
5 Firefighters hold them outside windows
6 Correctional worker?
7 Preside over
8 Galley's many
9 Sport ____
10 Artemis, to Apollo
11 Debate-club fodder
12 Pick up
13 More nervous
14 German-speaking Swiss canton
15 Young "in in the Hundred Acre Wood"
16 "Roman Holiday" princess
18 See 37A
19 Plant chewed in Arabia

- 20 Sleepwear
23 Semicircular shape
24 Serpentine of "Heard of 'em"
27 See 68A
28 Another name for retinol
29 One whose working days are numbered
31 Art or field starter
32 Ignominious
33 Baseball's Felipe
34 Souvlaki meat
36 Calculator part
38 Good to have around
39 Bivouacked
40 Percentage of a legal settlement
43 La Belle Époque under Abbr.
45 Serviceability
46 Unlikely Scottish sight
49 Berkeley university nickname
50 Tropical wreath
53 Speedometer reading, Abbr.
54 Cell phone brand
55 Consequently
57 Coffeehouse crockery
58 Antidote
60 Be up
62 With 61A, what these answers show
63 Turn to a new setting
64 Lake Mayan pyramids



- 67 Clog remover
69 See 92A
70 Smeller input
71 ____X
72 Gunpowder ingredient
73 Language once known as Cape Dutch
76 (Bad call!)
78 Football's Dawson
80 Go well together
81 Scott of "Happy Days"
82 Lugarian Sea feeder
84 High spirits
85 1967 music festival site
86 Unser and son
88 Anaculmas
89 Show unseemly curiosity
93 At some point
94 Where it's at
95 By agreed order
97 Guessed wrong
98 "Apocalypse Now" locale
100 Org. headquartered on Constitution Ave.
103 Not all there
104 Some Ivy Leaguers
105 Goodie to be divided
106 Arlene of "Here Come the Girls"
107 Intro delivers
108 Dada pioneer
109 Everyman
110 The World Factbook publisher Abbr.
111 Art movement prefix
112 Deep-six
113 Commuter carriers

Events

FROM PAGE C5

Knox Regional Shoreline, 900 Dorman Drive, Point Richmond. (510) 234-4884 or www.gsamm.org.

HABITOT CHILDREN'S MUSEUM — Ongoing. A museum especially for children ages 7 and under. Highlights include "WaterWorks," an area with some unusual water toys, an Infant Tree for babies, a garden especially for toddlers, a child-scale grocery store and cafe, and a costume shop and stage for junior thespians. The museum also features a toy lending library.

ONGOING EXHIBITS —

"Waterworks." A water play gallery with rivers, a pumping station and a water table, designed to teach about water.

"Little Town Grocery and Cafe." Designed to create the ambience of shopping in a grocery store and eating in a restaurant.

"Infant-Toddler Garden." A picket fence gated indoor area, which includes a carrot patch with wooden carrots to

be harvested, a pretend pond and a butterfly mobile to introduce youngsters to the concept of food, gardening and agriculture.

"Dramatic Arts Stage." Settings, backdrops and costumes coincide with seasonal events and holidays. Children can exercise their dramatic flair here.

"Wiggle Wall." The floor-to-ceiling "underground" tunnels give children a worm's eye view of the world. The tunnels are laced with net covered openings and giant optic lenses.

\$5 general; \$6 children ages 7 and under; free children ages 12 months and under. Monday and Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Tuesday and Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 2065 Kittredge St., Berkeley. (510) 647-1111 or www.habitot.org.

HALL OF HEALTH — Ongoing. A community health-education museum and science center promoting wellness and individual responsibility for health. There are hands-on exhibits that teach about the workings of the human body, the value of a healthy diet and exercise, and the destructive effects of

smoking and drug abuse. "Kids on the Block" puppet shows, which use puppets from diverse cultures to teach about and promote acceptance of conditions such as cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome, leukemia, blindness, arthritis and spina bifida, are available by request for community events and groups visiting the Hall on Saturdays.

ONGOING EXHIBITS —

"This Is Your Heart!" ongoing. An interactive exhibit on heart health.

"Good Nutrition," ongoing. This exhibit includes models for making balanced meals and an Exercycle for calculating how calories are burned.

"Draw Your Own Insides," ongoing. Human-shaped chalkboards and models with removable organs allow visitors to explore the inside of their bodies.

"Your Cellular Self and Cancer Prevention," ongoing. An exhibit on understanding how cells become cancerous and how to detect and prevent cancer.

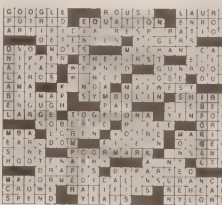
Suggested \$3 donation; free for children under age 3. Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 549-1564 or www.hallofhealth.org.

JUDAH L. MAGNES MUSEUM — The museum's permanent collection includes objects of Jewish importance including ceremonial art, film and video, folk art and fine art, paintings, sculptures and prints by contemporary and historical artists.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS —

"Case Study: Emanu-El Sisterhood for Personal Service," Aug. 29 through Feb. 5. An exhibit of photographs, correspondence, bylaws, reports, financial information, clippings and a building plan exploring the history of

See EVENTS, Page C9



Note: The shaded squares spell L-E-F-T.

ALAMEDA POINT

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES FAIR

Over 800 Booths of Antiques & Collectibles
At the Former Alameda Point Naval Air Station
Next Show: Sunday, October 2
For more info, call 510-522-7500
or go to www.antiquesbythebay.net

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(925) 834-8888

EL Sobrante
The Excitement is mounting
The STROLL is BACK
The Stroll is back
San Pablo Dam Road

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Live Entertainment
- 5 Bands -

Children's
Entertainment Stage
- 3 Entertainers -

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• Joust
• 24-Foot Slide
• Face Painting
• Boxing Ring
• Tattooing

Over 100 Craft
and Information Booths

See our full-page ad Sunday
September 11th for more information

You never know what you might find

El Sobrante Stroll

Sunday, September 18

10:00 am-4:00 pm

At San Pablo Dam Road

Between Appian & El Portal
Closed for traffic from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.

CONTRA COSTA TIMES

CAREER FAIR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

11:00 am-5:00 pm

(Closed from 2:00-3:00 pm)

Concord Hilton

1970 Diamond Blvd.

(Off Interstate 680 turn East on Willow Pass Road)

Bring your experience and resumes to the
Contra Costa Times Career Fair and meet local
companies looking for qualified applicants.

GENERAL

Open to ALL job seekers. Opportunities in areas such as sales, management, retail, customer service, underwriting, loan processing, banking, administration, manufacturing, project management, engineering, mechanical and labor technicians, accounting, finance, security/corrections, IT and much more.

HEALTH CARE

Companies in this area seek qualified RN's, LVN's, Nursing Managers, CNA's; Physical, Occupational, Respiratory and other Therapists; and more! For admission to the Healthcare Section, your qualifications must match healthcare employers' positions.

For a list of participating companies, see our ad in
the Contra Costa Times CareerBuilder Section,
Sunday, September 18

FREE Admission

FREE resume reviews, FREE parking
FREE photocopying available

REGISTER TODAY!

www.careerfair.cclextra.com

Pre-register and save time at the show! Complete the
registration form, print it out and bring with you.
Same day registration is available.

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CONTRACOSTATIMES.COM

careerbuilder.

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SUNVALLEY SHOPPING CENTER

Contra Costa Times
and
SUNVALLEY Shopping Center

JOB FAIR

GENERAL

Open to ALL job seekers. Opportunities in
areas such as sales, management, retail,
customer service, banking, administration,
security, construction and more.

CONCORD

Tuesday, October 4

1:00-5:00 pm

6:00-8:00 pm

SUNVALLEY Shopping Center

One SUNVALLEY Mall

Concord, CA 94520

(Off Interstate 680 and turn West on Willow Pass Road)

Employers: To secure a booth call (925) 952-5000

FREE Admission

No Pre-registration required

Prepare for success:

Wear proper business attire

Bring at least 20 copies of your resume

CONTRA COSTA TIMES

CONTRACOSTATIMES.COM

careerbuilder.

SUNVALLEY

SHOPPING CENTER

ents

PAGE C8

San Francisco Jewish women's or-
ganization Exodus: The Rippling Cur-
rent, Aug. 29 through Oct. 15. An exhibit of works
by an interactive installation by a
documentary filmmaker
and the displacement of
Jews during World War II.
Oct. 30, 2 p.m. A col-
lecting Forays' work.

Housings: Portability in
Culture, Aug. 29
through Oct. 15. An exhibit of works
by a permanent col-
lecting religious and secu-
lar ritual objects, paint-
ed sculpture.

Larry Abramson: Search-
ing for a City, Sept. 12
through Oct. 19. An installation cre-
ated by a museum, using objects
of spice boxes and
high lamps to build a model
representing Jerusalem.
Sept. 24 students and seniors;
for children under age 12. Sun-
day Wednesday, 10 a.m. to 4
p.m. Thursday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Berkeley, (510) 549-
0000. www.magnes.org

COLLEGE ART MUSEUM —
Collection includes over 6,000
works, approximately 4,000 prints
and drawings, 900 textiles, 200 paint-
ings and 900 small ceramics and
jars. Each season works from
museum's permanent collection
shown along with the regular sea-
son program.

EXHIBITS —
of Book Series, Volume 2, Aug.
10 through Dec. 11. A video by
the artist.
Laguna Inversions, Aug. 30
through Oct. 8. An exhibit of new
works by Gay Outlaw
from Distance, Aug. 30
through Dec. 11. A video by Mona
Lima, Aug. 30 through
Oct. 8. A video by Linda Montano.

Free. Tuesday, Thursday through Sat-
urday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Wednesday,
11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, noon to
4 p.m. 5000 MacArthur Blvd., Oak-
land, (510) 430-2164 or
www.mills.edu.

**MUSEUM OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN
TECHNOLOGY SCIENCE VILLAGE**
— Ongoing. A science museum with
an African-American focus promoting
science education and awareness for
the underrepresented. The science vil-
lage chronicles the technical achieve-
ments of people of African descent
from ancient times to present. There
are computer classes at the Internet
Cafe, science education activities and
seminars. There is also a resource li-
brary with a collection of books, peri-
odicals and videotapes.

\$6 general; \$4 children ages 6 to 18.
Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5
p.m.; Saturday, noon to 6 p.m.; Sun-
day, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. 630 20th St.,
Oakland, (510) 893-6426 or www.ncal-
ifblackengineers.org.

MUSEUM OF CHILDREN'S ART —
Ongoing. A museum of art for and by
children, with activities for children to
participate in making their own art.

ART CAMPS — Hands-on activities and
engaging curriculum for children of
different ages, led by professional
artists and staff. \$60 per day.

CLASSES — A Sunday series of
classes for children ages 8 to 12, led
by Mocha artists. Sundays, 2 p.m. to
4 p.m.

OPEN STUDIOS — Drop-in art play
activities with new themes each week.

"Big Studio." Guided art projects for
children age 6 and older with a
Mocha artist. Tuesday through Friday,
4 p.m. to 5 p.m. \$5.

"Little Studio." A hands-on experience
that lets young artists age 18 months
to 5 years see, touch and manipulate
a variety of media. Children can get
messy. Tuesday through Friday, 10
a.m. to 4 p.m. \$5.

"Family Weekend Studios." Drop-in art
activities for the whole family. All ages
welcome. Saturday and Sunday, noon
to 4 p.m. \$5 per child.

FAMILY EXTRAVAGANZAS — Special
weekend workshops for the entire
family.
"Sunday Workshops with Illustrators,"

Sundays, 1 p.m. See the artwork and
meet the artists who create children's
book illustrations. Free.
Free gallery admission. Tuesday
through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.;
Saturday and Sunday, noon to 5 p.m.
538 Ninth St., Oakland, (510) 465-
8770 or www.mocha.org.

OAKLAND MUSEUM OF CALIFORNIA

— ONGOING EVENTS —

"Art a la Carte," Wednesdays, 12:30
p.m.. Art docents offer a variety of
specialized tours focusing on one as-
pect of the museum's permanent col-
lection. Free with museum admission.

"Online Museum," Thursdays, 1 p.m. to
4 p.m. Explore the museum's col-
lection on videodisks in the History De-
partment Library.

Docent Gallery Tours, Saturday and
Sunday, 1:30 p.m.

SPECIAL EVENTS — Free with general
admission unless otherwise noted.

"Untold Stories: Baseball and the Multi-
cultural Experience," Sept. 17, 7 p.m.
to 9 p.m.. An evening of stories about
baseball figures who overcame eth-
nic and racial barriers to succeed, fea-
turing Martin Wyatt of KGO-TV, Negro
League player Buck O'Neil, journalist
Marcos Breton, photographer Jose
Luis Villegas and historian Kerry Yo
Nakagawa. Tickets available at
www.museumca.org/tickets. \$10, 10
Tenth St., Oakland.

"Bike Tours of Oakland," Sept. 18, 10
a.m. Explore Oakland by bike with
docents from the museum, on a
leisurely two-hour tour. Meet at the
10th Street entrance. Reservations re-
quired. (510) 238-3514.

"Family Exploration! Shadow Puppets,"
Sept. 18, noon to 4 p.m. Hear stories
about California animals and learn
how to make a shadow puppet of your
favorite animal.

"What's My Name, Fool? Sports and
Resistance in the United States,"
Sept. 19, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Sports writer
Dave Zinn discusses his new book.
Zinn will be joined by Adonai Foyle of
the Golden State Warriors.

Oakland Rotary's 23rd Annual "Taste of
California," Sept. 25, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Enjoy sparkling wine, fine wines,
gourmet foods, specialty beers and
unique desserts. There will also be an
art fair, live music, a silent auction

and other entertainment. In the mu-
seum's Garden Courtyard. For ages
21 and over. www.oakland-rotary.org.
\$50.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS —

"Oakland's Coach: The Legacy of
George Powles," Ongoing. Opening
Sept. 17. An exhibit dedicated to the
man who coached baseball, basket-
ball and football at McClymonds, a
predominantly black high school in
Oakland, from 1947 to 1975, and who
influenced the lives of Frank Robin-
son, Curt Flood, Joe Morgan and Bill
Russell.

"Plant Portraits: The California Legacy
of A.R. Valentien," April 9 through
Dec. 4. An exhibit of 80
watercolor/gouache paintings of Cali-
fornia wildflowers by the artist.

"The Art of Vika and Otto Heino, 20th-
Century Ceramic Masters," July 23
through Oct. 16. An exhibit of 50 of
the couple's elegant bottles, bowls,
platters and tiles, created in the pe-
riod from 1950 to 1995.

"Baseball as America," Sept. 17 through
Jan. 22. This exhibit explores the re-
lationship between baseball and
American culture, and features ob-
jects from the National Baseball Hall
of Fame and Museum. EXTENDED
WEEKEND HOURS FOR THIS EX-
HIBIT: SATURDAY, 10 A.M. TO 8 P.M.;
SUNDAY, NOON TO 6 P.M.

"The Latino Baseball Story: Photo-
graphs by Jose Luis Villegas,"
Sept. 17 through May 28. An exhibit of
60 photographs documenting young
Latinos and their dreams of becoming
baseball stars in the United States.

\$8 general; \$5 seniors and students;
free for children ages 5 and under;
free to all on the second Sunday of
the month. Special events are free
with museum admission unless noted
otherwise. Wednesday through Sat-
urday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday, noon
to 5 p.m.; first Friday of the month, 10
a.m. to 9 p.m. 1000 Oak St., Oak-
land, (510) 238-2200 or www.muse-
umca.org.

PARDEE HOME MUSEUM — Ongoing.
The historic Pardee Mansion, a three-
story Italianate villa built in 1869, was
home to three generations of the
Pardee family who were instrumental
in the civic and cultural development
of California and Oakland. The home

includes the house, grounds, water
tower and barn. Reservations recom-
mended.

\$5 general; free for children ages 12
and under. House Tours: Wednesday,
Friday and Saturday, noon, 1 p.m., 2
p.m. and 3 p.m. 672 11th St., Oak-
land, (510) 444-2187 or www.pardee-
home.org.

RICHMOND MUSEUM OF HISTORY

— Ongoing. Permanent exhibits high-
light Richmond's cultural, industrial
and architectural legacy.

Free. Wednesday through Sunday, 1
p.m. to 4 p.m. 400 Nevin Ave., Rich-
mond, (510) 235-7387 or
http://www.ci.richmond.ca.us/ri-
chmond-museum-exhibits.htm

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
BERKELEY ART MUSEUM** —

— ONGOING EVENTS —

"First Impressions: Free First Thurs-
days," first Thursday of every month

Special tours and movie presenta-
tions. Admission is free.

Guided Tours, selected Thursdays at
12:15 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. and Sun-
days at 2 p.m. Graduate students
from the university's Department of Art
History will give tours of featured ex-
hibits.

SPECIAL EVENT —

"Modern Girls (Unless They're French)
Don't Wear Kimono," Sept. 25, 3 p.m.
A slide lecture by Liza Dalby, the only
American to have worked as a
geisha. In the Museum Theater

SPECIAL EXHIBITS —

"Turning Corners," Feb. 26 through Jan
22. This exhibition looks at five cen-
turies of innovative art and ideas from
around the world through master-
works from the UC Berkeley Art Mu-
seum collections. On view are works
by artists ranging from Albrecht
Durer, Peter Paul Rubens and Paul
Gauguin to Jackson Pollock and Eva
Hesse; and recent work by Jeanne
Dunning, Xu Bing and Mona Hatoum.

"Figurations," July 21 through Dec. 23.

A changing exhibition of historical
and recent paintings, photographs
and sculptures that consider the hu-
man form in various ways.

"Yosemite in Time," Aug. 10 through
Dec. 23. An exhibit exploring the history
of California's Yosemite National

Park through the work of some of
America's greatest landscape
painters, including Ansel Adams, Car-
leton Watkins and Edward Muy-
bridge.

Panel Discussion, Oct. 9, 2 p.m.
"Taisho Chic: Japanese Modernity, No-
talgia and Deco," Sept. 14 through
Dec. 23. An exhibit of Japanese scroll
paintings, folding screens, wood-
block prints, kimono, and decorative
arts, exploring the impact of Western
styles and culture on early-20th-cen-
tury Japan.

"MATRIX 218 — Carla Klein: Scape,"
Sept. 18 through Nov. 6. A solo ex-
hibit of large-scale paintings by Rot-
terdam-based artist Carla Klein.

\$8 general; \$5 seniors, students and
youth ages 12 to 18; free children un-
der age 12 and UC Berkeley students;
free to all on first Thursday of the
month. Wednesday through Sunday,
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday, 11 a.m.
to 7 p.m. 2626 Bancroft Way, Berke-
ley, (510) 642-0808 or
www.bampfa.berkeley.edu.

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,
BERKELEY HEARST MUSEUM OF
ANTHROPOLOGY** —

— ONGOING EXHIBITS —

"Native California Cultures," ongoing.

This is an exhibit of some 500 arti-
facts from the museum's California
collections, the largest and most
comprehensive collections in the
world devoted to California Indian cul-
tures. The exhibit includes a section
about Ishi, the famous Indian who
lived and worked with the museum,
Yana tribal baskets and a 17-foot
Yurok canoe carved from a single
redwood.

"Recent Acquisitions," ongoing. The
collection includes Yoruba masks and
carvings from Africa, early-20th-cen-
tury Taiwanese hand puppets, textiles
from the Americas and 19th- and
20th-century Tibetan artifacts.

"From the Maker's Hand: Selections
from the Permanent Collection," on-
going. This exhibit explores human
ingenuity in the living and historical cul-
tures of China, Africa, Egypt, Peru,
North America and the Mediter-
ranean.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



ASK THE EXPERT

QUESTION: To avoid costly
repairs, what maintenance should you
follow?

ANSWER: From Tom Inthawong at
NIPPON European Motors: Just like people,
preventative maintenance on your vehicle can help
you avoid expensive and inconvenient repairs and

depreciation on your vehicle. The best way to keep a
vehicle in good condition is to follow the
manufacturer's maintenance schedule in your
owner's manual for your type of driving. If you do not
have an owner's manual, contact the manufacturer
to obtain one or get a recommended maintenance
schedule. Your regular maintenance technician
should also provide you with additional information
about your car, specifically, due to your own
personal wear and tear patterns.

NIPPON European Motors

NIPPON European Motors has all the latest equipment to
keep your car running it's best. Owner Tom Inthawong has
operated this business in Albany since 1983 and has spent
thousands of dollars in new equipment and computer
software to keep up to date with trends and issues in
automotive repair. Tom's entire crew of mechanics attend
several training sessions throughout the year. All are ASE
certified, trained in vehicle electrical systems, anti-lock
brakes and advance engine performance. To provide a
superior level of service, we will work on your car only after
we do an in-house investigation of any recalls that exist on
that vehicle. We provide a high level of service at a
reasonable cost to provide you with a satisfying repair or
inspection experience. After all, we have been an honor roll
member of the BBB for many years running. Drop off
service available always. Shuttle service available on a
case by case basis.

Acura and Lexus specialists. NIPPON European Motors,
730 San Pablo Ave., Albany. Phone 510.527.2443

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Welcome to 7 Days a Week Smog; The Fastest,
Friendliest Smog in Town!

Not all smog checks are the same and our twelve years of
experience ensures that you get the best smog check
service available. Our commitment to customer service
means we strive to make your smog check experience quick
and pleasant. We offer free pick up and delivery; or you're
welcome to drop in and relax in our lounge and enjoy a cup
of coffee while you surf the web during your smog check.
Because we are a "Test-Only Center" we can perform any
smog on any vehicle. Unlike test and repair stations, we do
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Philharmonia dazzles with 'Atalanta'

By Georgia Rowe
CORRESPONDENT

When thought Nicholas McGegan and the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra's extensive repertoire with Handel's music, might have they would have presented the composer's operas in the Bay Area.

Last spring, European audiences heard the early music ensemble in this beguiling, seldom-performed opera; McGegan directed the group's first U.S. performances of it in Berkeley last weekend.

Monday's luminous concert at the First Congregational Church spread the notion that good things come to those who wait. McGegan leading a well-known orchestra, the Philharmonia Baroque, the Philharmonia Baroque's 25th anniversary season, the performance repeats Friday in San Francisco and Saturday in Palo Alto.

Big part of the evening's success was due to soprano Dominique Labelle in the title role. Canadian artist's past appearances with Philharmonia have been characterized by musicianship and keen dra-



SUPER SOPRANO: Dominique Labelle put on a magnificent appearance as the title character in Handel's 'Atalanta.'

With her portrayal of Atalanta, Labelle gave her most compelling performance to date.

matic focus. With her portrayal of Atalanta, Labelle gave her most compelling performance to date.

Composed in 1736 for the wedding of Prince Frederick of Wales, 'Atalanta' is a pastoral in the tradition of 'Acis and

Galatea.' The title character is a princess who is devoted to outdoor pursuits, particularly the joys of boar hunting.

Hoping to avoid the confines of marriage, she disguises herself as a shepherdess and promptly runs into another royal, King Meleagro, who is also in disguise. Of course, they fall in love on the spot, but since each believes the other to be a commoner, they put their feelings aside.

Meanwhile, the opera's second couple — Aminta and Irene, an actual shepherd and shepherdess — are engaged in a fervent

CONCERT REVIEW

WHAT: The Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra presents Handel's 'Atalanta.'

WHEN AND WHERE: Program repeats today, Herbst Theater, San Francisco; and Saturday, First United Methodist Church, Palo Alto.

HOW MUCH: \$28-\$62

CONTACT: 415-392-4400, or www.philharmonia.org

courtship of their own.

Since the opera was written for a wedding, a happy ending was guaranteed for all (the god Mercury arrives late in the day to give the final arrangements his stamp of approval.) Along the way, though, the plot yields more mixed signals, mistaken identities, scorned love and jealous rages than an episode of 'Desperate Housewives.'

Still, 'Atalanta' contains some of the composer's most vibrant, infinitely varied music; and Sunday's performance, as expertly led by McGegan, was a thrilling aural experience.

The featured numbers are the extended *da capo* arias that give each vocalist a chance to display the brilliance of his or her vocal

technique.

As Atalanta, Labelle took top honors at the head of an outstanding cast. Beginning with 'Thyrsis, and Every Generous Swain' in Act 1, the soprano delivered one forcefully shaped, exquisitely ornamented aria after another. Soprano Susanne Ryden (in a trouser role originally sung by a castrato) was the elegant, pure-toned Meleagro.

Making her first appearance with Philharmonia, mezzo-soprano Cecile van de Sant sang silkily as Irene; tenor Michael Slattery was an aptly callow, impetuous Aminta. Baritone Philip Cutlip was a secure Nicandro, and Corey McKern was the commanding Mercury. Bruce Lamott's Philharmonia Choral produced glorious sound.

Philharmonia has come to favor the semistaged concert approach to presenting large-scale Handel works; there are no sets, costumes or props, but the performers add just enough in the way of movement and gesture to suggest action and intent.

With this opera, the approach was extremely effective, helping to define the characters and enhance the plot's comic aspects throughout.

Cabaret

PAGE C12

events. (Borris and Brooks do a droll, dowdy wig that can't help but to such close scrutiny.) In the two wails who briefly together, Corrie Lenn Borris and Ron Lytle seem real and

Sally Bowles, Borris' limb-flopping occasionally grates, but she's great at boozing charm. In her climactic number, she steers clear of Liza Minelli-style theatrics; instead, her rendition of 'Cabaret' moves smoothly from wistfulness to defiance to despair.

Patrick Sanchez is a softer, more humorous Emcee than Joel Grey, who originated the role in the movie, but he's no less compelling. The Emcee is the dark guardian angel of the Kit Kat Klub, and Sanchez brings depth

to the role. We follow his moral transformation as he becomes the bellwether for the sinister transformation of Germany wrought by the Nazis.

Charles Evans and Ellen Brooks are quietly moving as two lonely middle-aged people whose tentative happiness is destroyed by racism. Again, this production lets them speak and sing gently and naturally, allowing the audience to be truly moved by their tenderness and its destruction.

Neil Miller and Shannon

Nicholson do an excellent job of portraying the two faces of Nazi evil: Miller is the amiable bagman who doesn't seem to think too deeply about the movement he supports. Nicholson's hooker with a heart of stone is ironic, sexy and malevolent.

Will theatergoers connect the indifference or acquiescence of the characters in 'Cabaret' to the Nazi takeover with the political climate today in the United States? Should they? The ambisexual Kit Kat Klub folk and the

casual cohabitation of Sally and Cliff are fairly mainstream today, while Homeland Security seems like a necessary strategy to some of us. Cliff comes to see the deliciously decadent 'Cabaret' as the other side of the Nazi coin; who among us would want to give up American Idol?

Berkeley freelance writer Susan Kuchinkas' life isn't a Cabaret; it's more of a health food store. Send tickets to Berlin to susan@kuchinkas.com.

AVAILABLE ON DVD

Paul Haggis, who adapted 'Crash' (PG-13), earned added acclaim as the writer-director of this intense, hard-hitting Los Angeles residential drama. The film is a tour de force of circumstances. The story features Sandra Bullock as a police officer who becomes urban-crime expert. As a police officer, she is a police officer who becomes urban-crime expert. As a police officer, she is a police officer who becomes urban-crime expert.

THE COMPLETE FIRST SEASON: Nine crash survivors try to cope on a Pacific island while hoping for rescue. In this drama series from ABC, when it needed it. Matthew Fox serves as the initial guide into the situation, a doctor who tries to help the crash survivors from the doomed island. The strange sounds from the jungle alarm everyone. The cast includes Dominic Monaghan, James Van Der Beek, Naveen Andrews, and Quinn. DVD extras: audio commentary by cast and crew; deleted scenes. B+ (Not rated)

ULLMAN: LIVE AND EXCLUSIVE: The versatile performer takes the audience through her life in a biographical one-woman show for HBO. U.S. fans who knew Ullman as a comedian — the one who gave 'The Simpsons' start on her own Fox show — will be surprised to learn she also accomplished singer and actress who had several hit songs (including 'Don't Know') on the 1990 charts in the mid-1980s. The show was taped over three performances at the Henry Ford Theatre in Chicago. B (Not rated)

WILSON: A CHILD'S EYES: SEPTEMBER 11, 2001. Originally shown on PBS in 2003, this poignant special gives us a chance to share the story of some sad, some hope-

ful, some even funny — on the events of 9/11 and their aftermath. Included are children who lost loved ones in the attacks, young Afghan refugees and the offering of service members. Music by Frank Sinatra, John Lennon, the Byrds and other recognizable artists forms the soundtrack. B (Not rated)

"HAVEN": Journalist Ruth Gruber's moving memoir inspired this drama — a 2001 CBS miniseries — about her work with Holocaust refugees who were offered a safe haven in the United States. Natasha Richardson plays Gruber, who helps escort almost 1,000 Jews from Europe to the U.S. as a young federal government official during World War II. Their troubles aren't over once they leave Europe, as they encounter hostility from the wounded soldiers who share their ship ... and also from the people in the upstate New York town where they're forced to stay. Anne Bancroft, Colm Feore, Sheila McCarthy, Martin Landau and Henry Czerny also star in the poignant drama. B (Not rated)

"THE CUTTING EDGE: THE MAGIC OF MOVIE EDITING": Narrated by Kathy Bates, this documentary about ways in which movies are assembled also is available on the special-edition version of "Bullitt" ... which is appropriate, since Steve McQueen's classic car chase is among the sequences examined here. Some of Hollywood's top filmmakers — including Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, Martin Scorsese and Quentin Tarantino — share editing thoughts and techniques. B (Not rated)

"MONSTER-IN-LAW": Jane Fonda returned to the screen with this comedy, playing a woman totally devoted to her doctor son (Michael Vartan) ... to the degree that she does all she can to demolish his relationship with his new girlfriend (Jennifer Lopez). Once his flame catches onto what Mom is up to, it's war between the women. Comedian Wanda Sykes is a riot as Fonda's confidante. DVD extras: audio commentary by Sykes, director Robert Luketic, producer Chris Bender, production designer Miss Stewart and cinematographer Russell Carpenter; theatrical trailers; "making of" docu-

mentaries; deleted scenes; outtakes; soundtrack "Jump" feature; "Ruby's Make-up Bag" feature. B- (PG-13)

"SAHARA": Based on one of the novels by Clive Cussler (who reportedly wasn't too happy with this film) about adventurer Dirk Pitt, this well-paced escape tale takes the troubleshooter — played by Matthew McConaughey — and his smart-aleck cohort (Steve Zahn) to the title desert, where they search for a Civil War vessel allegedly laden with treasure. Their paths cross that of a doctor (Penelope Cruz) who fears a massive plague. DVD extras: "making of" documentaries; audio commentary by McConaughey and director Breck Eisner; deleted scenes. C+ (PG-13)

"NIP/TUCK: THE COMPLETE SECOND SEASON": Personal and professional dilemmas continue to plague plastic-surgery partners Sean McNamara and Christian Troy (Dylan Walsh, Julian McMahon) in the second round of the edgy FX drama series. The first story in the six-disc set focuses on Julia's (Joely Richardson) visiting, facelift-seeking mother (guest star Vanessa Redgrave). DVD extras: "making of" documentary; deleted scenes. B (Not rated)

"WARM SPRINGS": Kenneth Branagh and Cynthia Nixon tackle an early phase in the lives of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt in this HBO movie, currently among the top nominees for the upcoming Emmy Awards. The film delves beneath the worshipful surface to offer painfully human portraits of the spouses' admittedly rocky marriage. Other major elements of the script are President Roosevelt's daunting challenges from the world events around him and from his polio-stricken body. The superb cast also includes Jane Alexander, an earlier television Eleanor. DVD extras: "making of" documentary; audio commentary by Joseph Sargent and Margaret Nagle. A (Not rated)

"ROSEANNE: THE COMPLETE FIRST SEASON": Roseanne Barr was a success on the stand-up comedy circuit when television came calling in

1988, making her one of the medium's top stars. The ABC sitcom played on the working-class nature of her jokes and anecdotes, making her the matriarch of an Illinois household including a loving yet equally feisty husband (John Goodman) and a colorful set of kids (Sara Gilbert, Michael Fishman, Lucy Gorman). Laurie Metcalf also was a regular cast member as Roseanne's sister, George Clooney co-starred in the series' first year. B (Not rated)

"HOUSE: SEASON ONE": One of last season's most distinctive new television characters was in the hands of British actor Hugh Laurie, and this three-disc DVD set reaffirms why he's now nominated for an Emmy Award. Dr. Gregory House is an abrasive physician who stops at nothing to diagnose and treat cases that have others stumped. Omar Epps, Jennifer Morrison and Jesse Spencer play House's trusty assistants. Lisa Edelstein and Robert Sean Leonard also are regulars. DVD extras: "making of" documentaries; interviews with cast members. B (Not rated)

"THE RING TWO": Be careful what you watch — again — as this Japanese-influenced horror sequel features a bizarre videotape as the instrument of death for anyone who views it. Naomi Watts returns as the reporter who finds herself and her young son (David Dorfman) endangered once more, as the horrifying young woman (Kelly Stables) in the tape finds new channels to terrorize others. Sissy Spacek, Simon Baker and Emily VanCamp also appear. DVD extras: "making of" documentary; deleted scenes; short film "Rings"; "The Power of Symbols" featurette. B (PG-13)

"BEAUTY SHOP": After appearing in the "Barbershop" sequel, Queen Latifah carries her spirited character into a showcase of her own in this expectedly boisterous comedy. The woman decides to set up an Atlanta beauty parlor of her own when she decides she can no longer work for her boss (a riotously fork-tongued Kevin Bacon), setting up a direct rivalry with her. The diverse, fun cast also includes Alicia Silverstone,

Andie MacDowell, Djimon Hounsou and Mena Suvari. DVD extras: "making of" documentary; audio commentary by director Bille Woodruff; outtakes. B+ (PG-13)

"LAYER CAKE": Rumored as a contender to become the screen's next James Bond, Daniel Craig walks the opposite side of the law in debuting director Matthew Vaughn's acclaimed crime tale. Craig plays a felon who wants out of his line of work, but a couple of remaining jobs might preclude that; he has to forsake some of his own rules of the game as his missions put him in the company of an other stylish crook (Michael Gambon) and an alluring woman (Sienna Miller). DVD extras: "making of" documentary; audio commentary by Vaughn and writer J.J. Connelly; deleted scenes; alternate endings; music video; National Film Theatre panel. B+ (R)

"A LOT LIKE LOVE": The "When Harry Met Sally ..." concept gets a not-quite-as-charming update in this romantic comedy of two strangers, played by Ashton Kutcher and a hard-working Amanda Peet, who get to know each other extremely well during a plane trip. They check in with each other over a seven-year stretch, but the timing never seems right for them to have a full-fledged romance ... until it may be too late. Co-stars include Jeremy Sisto. DVD extras: audio commentary by director Nigel Cole and producers Arman Bernstein and Kevin Messick; deleted scenes; outtakes; music video. C (PG-13)

"THE O.C.: THE COMPLETE SECOND SEASON": Talk about lots of loose ends to resolve. In this seven-disc DVD set drawn from the Fox show, Seth (Adam Brody) isn't returned from his impromptu sailing excursion; girlfriend Summer (Rachel Bilson) isn't happy about his absence; and Marissa (Mischa Barton) has her own AWOL beau, Ryan (Benjamin McKenzie). Shannon Lucio, Billy Campbell and Johnny Messner have recurring guest roles. DVD extras: "making of" documentaries; audio commentary by cast and crew members on selected episodes; outtakes. B+ (Not rated)

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Fiction

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4. "The Mermaid Chair," by Sue Monk Kidd. (Viking, \$24.95.)
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Arts & Leisure

Friday, September 16, 2005



BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

New Orleans media a marvel

I'M LISTENING TO Dixieland and blues on New Orleans' WWOZ 90.7 FM, arguably the finest jazz station anywhere. WWOZ, as you might imagine, has had a bit of trouble staying on the air. When it is, it's available on the Web at wwoz.org.

WWOZ is as close as you're going to get in California to the soul of that decimated city. The station's staff has scattered. Even before Hurricane Katrina hit, I'd begun watching New Orleans' WDSU-TV and WWL-TV, also broadcasting live on the Web. The day after the canals broke, those TV stations flooded and began broadcasting from outlying cities, sometimes with anchors at card tables with folding chairs.

You get a texture from local stations you won't get from the networks, who have also been doing an outstanding job. If I hadn't spent a good deal of time in New Orleans last year, I'd probably be watching this tragedy with journalistic detachment. I can't do that now; I've developed a fondness for that ravaged city.

When I watch local New Orleans TV on the computer, I recognize where many of those fires are burning, where the helicopters are hovering on live coverage.

The other day, I did some volunteer work for the Red Cross' disaster-relief team. I was assigned a cubicle right next to the one where New Orleans evacuees were being processed. I heard their stories of escape from a hellish situation. I ached to tell them how sorry I was about what they'd been through, that I'd recently been to New Orleans. But I didn't. They needed help, not small talk from a Californian after their family tragedy.

When we got off the plane in New Orleans last year, our host, a former longtime Oakland resident, asked where we'd like to go. Someplace the tourists don't, we replied. So he headed way out to the east end of the city, to a poor, now-inundated suburb called Chalmette.

We finally stopped in front of a yellow, two-story tract home with several satellite dishes, two Cadillacs parked out front, and a huge "FD" posted on it. It was Fats Domino's house. (I didn't even know the rock legend was still alive.)

Our friend called out the window of his car to a large black man sitting on the porch, "Is the Fatman home?"

"Who wants to know?" the guy replied.

Our friend then gave his name.

"You want to come in?" the guy asked us, total strangers.

That's New Orleans for you — or was. Well, at least the Fatman made it out OK. His house didn't.

MEDIA NOTES: Doing a show on KNBR often turns you into a "homer" for the Giants, whose games KNBR carries. After USA Today's Christine Brennan wrote a scathing — and, I would submit, richly deserved — column ripping Barry Bonds' return, ex-Warrior Rick Barry, the biggest (literally and otherwise) bore on local radio, called Brennan and jumped on the soapbox, protesting that poor Bonds hadn't been found guilty of anything. Kind of hard to do when baseball players weren't drug-tested, replied Brennan. But droneologist Barry wouldn't shut up. Too bad, because he certainly had nothing to say of import. . . . New KRON-TV afternoon traffic reporter George Rask worked for years at KCBS radio. Few realize he created the profession. "George is amazing," said KCBS news anchor Steve Little. "He started the first-ever broadcast-traffic company, Metro Traffic, years ago. He's also a pilot and a stockbroker." Little adds one more item: "Last I heard, George was also managing a Trader Joe's in San Francisco."

'Cabaret' deftly directed, nicely staged

■ Altarena Playhouse production has a fine sense of scale; audience is drawn into the action

By Susan Kuchinskas
CORRESPONDENT

It's 1929, and Berlin is Sin City. Two lonely souls grasp at love in a milieu that destroys it. The Altarena Playhouse's "Cabaret" is familiar territory to most of us, thanks to the movie, numerous local productions, and endless renditions of the title song.

In his notes, Director Phil Lowery says he saw parallels between this story of people who party blindly as liberty and justice slip away and our lives today, when Janet Jackson's wardrobe malfunction seems more important than increasing censorship, loss of civil liberties, and the use of aggressive interrogation tactics at home and abroad.

Christopher Ishwerwood wrote in "Goodbye to Berlin," the 1939 novel on which the play and musical were based, "The political moral is certainly depressing: These people could be made to believe in anybody and anything."

Lowery adds no modern touches or references to current events, letting the audience make its own connections. Or not. Modern-day productions of "Cabaret" are a bit problematic as social commentary. The "Cabaret" acts and the lives of the performers might have been shocking in 1939 and certainly titillating in Bob Fosse's 1972 musical. The opening night audience at the Altarena included seniors and teenagers thoroughly enjoying the songs about ménages à trois and the dancers brandishing whips and paddles.

There's a fine sense of scale to this production. Lowery, along with music director Armando Fox and choreographer Brendan Simon, manages a difficult feat: staging bofo dance numbers and show-stopping ballads in a way that exploits the intimacy of this small theater.

The Altarena is just the size



SALLY BOWLES (Corrie Lenn Borris) and Clifford Bradshaw (Ron Lytle) create sparks in "Cabaret" at the Altarena Playhouse.

THEATER REVIEW

of a little Berlin boite, and it's amazing what Lowery, backed by scenic and lighting designer Mike Maio, manages to accomplish on the tiny, three-sided proscenium. Small tables in front of the first rows of seats on two sides of the stage draw the audience into the action. The action occasionally spills out into the audience, but the six Kit Kat Girls splash around the stage without upsetting any tables.

The eight-piece band includes accordion, trombone and a full trap set. The musicians were marvels of restraint, adding exciting push to the dance numbers without overwhelming the vocals or the audience's ears. Decked out in transgender nightclub garb, they did double duty as stage dressing and extras.

IF YOU GO

- **WHAT:** "Cabaret"
- **WHEN:** Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. through Oct. 8
- **WHEN:** Altarena Playhouse, 1409 High St., Alameda
- **TICKETS:** \$18 adults, \$15 seniors. For reservations, call 510-523-1553 or visit altarena.org

Just a few props and a nifty disappearing bed elicit the various locales of the action. The dancers use the entire stage without seeming in danger of kicking anyone in the head. The actors' makeup — with the exception, of course, of the wildly painted Emcee and the Kit Kat Girls — looks natural, adding to the impression that we're within

See CABARET, Page C11



SALLY BOWLES (Corrie Lenn Borris) and Clifford Bradshaw (Ron Lytle) work together in the Kit Kat Klub in "Cabaret" playing at the Altarena Playhouse.

DANCE: AN INSTITUTION RETURNS

Oakland Ballet launching its comeback

By Mary Ellen Hunt
CORRESPONDENT

The percussive shrieks of Igor Stravinsky's "Les Noces" are echoing in Oakland Ballet's hallways, but no one seems to mind, least of all artistic director Karen Brown, who is busily getting the company back up to speed after a year of too much quiet.

In 2004, the company went dark for financial reasons, and at the time it seemed like a dubious decision. What is a dance troupe without dancers, after all?

But the year has given the company a chance to reassess its direction and evaluate its identity, leading to what Brown calls "paradigm shifts." Those shifts have filtered down into practical decisions about everything from programming to venues. For instance, for mixed repertory shows, Oakland Ballet will trade the cavernous grandeur of the Paramount Theatre for the intimacy of the smaller Calvin Simmons Theatre, although they'll be back at the Paramount for "Nutcracker."

So after a yearlong fund-raising effort, the organization has erased its \$250,000 debt and is ready to stage a comeback with a gala 40th anniversary program that celebrates Oakland Ballet's multifaceted history.

And what a history. Oakland is one of a handful of companies in the world with pieces from the rich legacy of the Ballet Russes era in its active repertoire, from which dancers will be performing a tableau from Bronislava Nijinska's architectural and unsettling "Les Noces," as well as excerpts from her naughty Riviera house party, "Les Biches."

But there's also a side of the Oakland Ballet repertory that taps into a terrific store of Americana ballets. The October show will highlight American stories as varied as Eugene Loring's "Billy the Kid," a commission to the music



THE NATIONAL BALLET of China will perform "Raise the Red Lantern" this weekend at UC Berkeley.

of Ella Fitzgerald from the estimable Donald McKayle, and Michael Lowe's appropriately celebratory "Double Happiness."

Oakland Ballet, "Billy the Kid," "Les Noces," "Double Happiness," "Les Biches," "Ella," Oct. 14-16, Calvin Simmons Theatre, Oakland, \$7-\$52, 510-286-8914, www.oaklandballet.org.

Best of the rest

■ **National Ballet of China, "Raise the Red Lantern"** — Director Zhang Zimou refashions his tale of the life of a concubine in medieval China into a spectacle

that marries classical ballet with Peking Opera theater. Sept. 16-18, Cal Performances, Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley, \$36-\$68, 510-642-9988, calperfs.berkeley.edu.

■ **Smuin Ballet, "Bluegrass/Slyde," "Romanze," "The Eyes That Gently Touch," "To the Beatles, Revisited"** — Longing will be in the air when Smuin Ballet puts on Kirk Peterson's "The Eyes That Gently Touch" as well as "Romanze," one of the choreographer's loveliest small vignettes. Sept. 30-Oct. 6, Palace of Fine Arts, S.F., \$18-\$65, 415-978-ARTS, www.smuinballet.org.

■ **Kirov Ballet, "The Sleeping Beauty"** — If you see only one production of "Sleeping Beauty" in your life, this is the one — the ne plus ultra of classical ballet. Oct. 12-16, Cal Performances, Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley, \$40-\$110, 510-642-9988, calperfs.berkeley.edu.

■ **Chitresh Das and Jason Samuels Smith, "India Jazz Suites"** — The rich tapestry of classical Indian Kathak dance gets a modern buzz when pandit Chitresh Das teams up with "Bring in 'Da Noise, Bring in 'Da Funk" tapmeister Jason Samuels

Smith. Nov. 10-12, Fort Mason Center, 415-345-7575, www.fortmason.org.

■ **Diablo Ballet of the Taj Mahal** — The romantic love story of great love stories, inane and daring. 19, Dean Leshner, for the Arts Council, Walnut Creek, 943-SHOW, www.walnutcreekarts.org.

Reach Mary Ellen Hunt at cmehunt@critic.com

cars.com

Section D

TOM KEANE
MOTOR MATTERS



THE RIO HAS AN attractive and distinctive design. The overall appearance is clean and simple, with swept-back headlamps and an aggressively styled grille.

MOTOR MATTERS

THE RIO HAS AN attractive and distinctive design. The overall appearance is clean and simple, with swept-back headlamps and an aggressively styled grille.

KEANE ON WHEELS

KIA RIO5

| | |
|------------------|---|
| Vehicle Type | Five-passenger, four-door, four-wheel drive, subcompact hatchback |
| Suggested Retail | \$13,500 |
| Price As Tested | \$15,890 |
| Engine Type | Four-cylinder 16-valve in-line DOHC CVT w/MPEFI |
| Horsepower | 110 @ 6,000 rpm |
| Torque | 107 @ 4,500 rpm |
| Transmission | Four-speed automatic |
| Wheelbase | 98 inches |
| Height | 58 inches |
| Curb Weight | 2,487 pounds |
| Fuel Capacity | 12 gallons |
| Mileage | City/highway 29/38 |

Rio has MacPherson struts with gas shocks and coil springs in the front end

INSIDE

Classic ClassicsPage D3
Get Off the RoadPage D3
Ask the Auto DoctorPage D4

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Never get lost again with GPS cell phone

BY MICHAEL GOLDFEIN
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

GPS navigation devices threaten to render the word "lost" obsolete. A number of luxury cars now come equipped with in-dash GPS mapping programs. Portable units suitable for automobile navigation are available in the \$400 to \$900 range from companies such as Garmin, Tom Tom and Magellan.

The gripe is that these devices are just one more occasionally useful electronic gadget to lug around, as opposed to cell phones, which are now virtually indispensable. As Groucho Marx used to chide moviegoers, "you can see where this is going."

CoPilot live Smartphone is an early, and very good, solution, although there are some caveats. First, you need to have a Windows Mobile Smartphone that is Bluetooth enabled. (Bluetooth is a short-range wireless technology that allows devices to communicate with each other.)

There are only two available in the United States, the Audiodex SMT 5600 and Motorola's MPX220. Cingular sells the Audiodex for \$199 with a two-year service plan. The Motorola, which will work on Cingular, can be purchased from independent dealers for \$249.

If you've gotten that far, you can purchase CoPilot live from ALK Technologies, a Princeton, N.J., company. (www.alk.com) The software package costs \$249. For \$349, ALK bundles a battery powered Bluetooth GPS receiver about the size of a giant package of gum.

Once the software is installed, you're off and driving. Place the GPS receiver on the dash and the phone on the seat. You can enter your destination using the phone's keypad, or by picking a location from your address book. Thanks to GPS, the phone knows where you are, and quickly creates a route.

As you begin to drive, the phone will bark out verbal directions, which we found to be loud and clear. The phone's screen displays a very simple 3D map showing next turn information, which can be absorbed with a quick glance. If you want a more detailed map, you can

Once the software is installed, you're off and driving. Place the GPS receiver on the dash and the phone on the seat. You can enter your destination using the phone's keypad, or by picking a location from your address book. Thanks to GPS, the phone knows where you are, and quickly creates a route.

switch to one.

I found one annoying problem. When two turns were within about 50 yards of each other, the phone won't always issue verbal instructions for the second turn. The screen, however, continues to display the correct directions. Company officials told me this was a programming decision to help drivers avoid the confusion of too many directions. They need to rethink this.

On the upside, one truly great feature is the ability for friends and loved ones to know where you are. Using the phone's data account, you can send real-time updates to invited guests who can watch your progress over the Internet. Parents may find particular comfort in this feature.

There is no question that cell phone GPS mapping is the future. Later this year more phones capable of using CoPilot live will hit the market, and phones with integrated GPS receivers can't be far off. In the meantime, CoPilot Smartphone is a nice option for road warriors, hikers and bicyclists, even if it does take the adventure out of getting lost.

Pros: Cell phone and GPS fit in your pocket.

Cons: Will sometimes not announce a turn.

Bottom Line: Someday everyone will have one.

Chevy Impala finally exciting again

BY STEVEN COLE SMITH
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

Chevrolet calls it the company's "quiet hero," and that's accurate. But "cash cow" might be another apt description for the Chevrolet Impala, which sold close to 300,000 copies

last year, making it the best-selling American-branded car, beat out in 2004 only by the Toyota Camry and Honda Accord. Chevy has sold 1.2 million Impalas since the current model was introduced in 1999.

It has been a long time, though, since Impala fans have been able to call their car "exciting." Yes, there has been an Impala SS, but with a supercharged 3.8-liter V-6, its horsepower was only 240, just 40 more than the car's standard 3.8-liter non-supercharged engine.

For 2006, Chevrolet says we're getting an "all new" Impala. Sure, the nose and tail look different, but the overall style hasn't changed much. But looks don't tell the story: Only about 25 percent of the 2006 Impala is carried over from 2005.

The most notable improvement brings "exciting" back to the Impala

The most notable improvement brings "exciting" back to the Impala glossier horsepower version of Chevy's 5.3-liter V-8, the first Impala V-8 since

glossary: a 303-horsepower version of Chevy's 5.3-liter V-8 for the SS model, the first Impala V-8 since 1996. And yes, devotees of that particular rear-wheel-drive Caprice-based Impala SS might complain that this front-wheel-drive '06 model isn't in the same league, but Chevrolet tells us the new Impala is the fastest model ever—and that includes the high-powered models from the 1960s.

Interestingly, that last Impala SS from 1996 was essentially a V-8-

powered Camaro with some attractive cause Chevrolet might think that a V-8-powered Camaro is a business car. Chevrolet's police car is offered in the 2006.

In search of a hall: A sport with cities at its

BY WALTER WOODS
COX NEWS SERVICE

ATLANTA — What a short, strange trip it's been.

The Virginia Air National Guard saluted them in Richmond. Charlottians cheered them in yellow T-shirts. Bernie Marcus wooed them at the Georgia Aquarium. They sweltered through a rally under the Daytona sun.

And, after all that, the executives swear there's no front-runner.

But — SPOILER ALERT — it's probably Kansas City. Or Atlanta, depending on whom you ask.

About a dozen NASCAR executives have spent the hottest month of the summer touring five cities that were invited to seek the hall: Daytona Beach, Fla., Atlanta, Charlotte, Kansas City, Kan., and finally — on Tuesday — Richmond.

Over the next 90 days, NASCAR's commissioners will pick one town for racing's one-and-only shrine, and their selection will be more about their sport's profile on the Mount Rushmore of American sports than its pocketbook or its history, racing watchers said.

"It's not the money," said Don Hinchey, vice president of the Bonham Group, a Colorado-based sports marketing firm. "This imbues them in the consciousness in America as one of the pre-eminent sports in the country."

NASCAR is one of the country's most watched TV spectacles, a sport loved by millions and endorsed by heartland staples like Coca-Cola, Old Spice and Viagra. It's even coming over for America's Sunday dinner.

"60 Minutes," the top-rated news magazine, will profile the France family, NASCAR's founders, one given Sunday this fall. It's another sign that NASCAR has waded deep into America's mainstream — if the 75 million screaming fans and store aisles stocked with official products hadn't convinced you already.

For NASCAR CEO Brian France, who's trying to model his sport after the National Football League and Major League Baseball, the hall of fame is about giving NASCAR party with other

major sports, said Jerry Bonkowski, a 20-year racing writer who's now a NASCAR columnist for Yahoo.

The Kansas connection

NASCAR is the first major sport to commence its own hall of fame, which gives its bosses complete control over where it goes.

Other athletic shrines were built in cities where folklore or history says the sports were founded, like Cooperstown, N.Y., for baseball or Canton, Ohio, for pro football. And attendance has been tepid.

If the NFL were doing it today, it would put its hall in New York City, said Don Jakeway, a trustee of the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton and CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corp.

Through the site visits, NASCAR has been diplomatic and respectful of each community's chances to organize a successful racing attraction. Executives even went out of their way to shoot down a conspiracy theory that gave the edge to Kansas.

But Kansas City is where it's going, Yahoo's Bonkowski insists. And they'll probably decide by mid-November, he said. On Tuesday in Richmond, NASCAR Chief Operating Officer George Payne said it is unrealistic to expect a site to be picked before December.

Why Kansas City? For one, Nextel, NASCAR's key sponsor, has merged with Sprint. The company is now called Sprint Nextel Corp. and is based in — drum roll — Shawnee Mission, Kan.

Bonkowski believes what's now called the Nextel Cup racing series could be named after Sprint by 2007.

What's more, Brian France has talked up Kansas in two conversations with Bonkowski.

"In January he talked at length about the Kansas market. He was so up on it, saying it was so vital a market to NASCAR," Bonkowski said. "Last month in Chicago he reiterated the he feels strongly about Kansas."

That may be ominous for the other cities. France, with a few of his relatives and advisers,

will decide where the hall will be built. Garis, sports marketing professor at Son University.

What's the best drive?

Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and all are within a reasonable drive of Richmond, DeGaris said.

Richmond is talking about a drive along I-95, which will be a boon for millions of people driving past.

"The primary reason is that the facility is to develop new talent in the state and Atlanta present the best opportunity."

NASCAR's Payne agreed. The head was, within 300 miles of the Americans, and so when you're in Richmond, that's what you want to know about," Payne said.

No way — Richmond, Bonkowski said. Jakeway, CEO of the Michigan Economic Development Corp., was out of the hall of fame race when he was picking Atlanta. "I would be really tough competition," said.

Atlanta's business community sponsors including SunTrust, Home Depot, will work hard to get "and you sure do get a lot of love for your town."

Then again, they could be the group inside NASCAR will make "they're keeping their cards close to Yahoo's Bonkowski said.

As DeGaris, the James Madison professor, put it: "I have no idea if they're going to make, and then to does."

It may take "60 Minutes" to get

Walter Woods writes for the Constitution. E-mail: woods@wnews.com. Associated Press contributed to this

WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

1522 9th St - \$590,000
1532 9th St - \$769,000
17 Applegate - \$1,050,000
2001 Austin St - \$273,000
129 Basinside Wy - \$950,000
339 Broadway 107 - \$390,000
1190 Brown St - \$590,000
1214 Chestnut St - \$700,000
2200 Clinton Av - \$490,000
1419 Cottage St - \$700,000
29 Courageous Ct - \$710,000
1441 Eastshore Dr - \$899,000
338 Hollister Av - \$273,000
1016 Island Dr - \$746,000
3103 La Cresta - \$578,000
35 McDonnell Rd - \$739,000
1708 Minturn St - \$611,000
1809 St. Charles St - \$690,000
502 Tideway Dr - \$1,250,000

ALBANY

828 Curtis St - \$790,000
935 Pomona - \$525,000
795 Taft Av - \$601,000

BERKELEY

2709 10th St A - \$765,000
1208 Allston Wy - \$689,000
1534 Ashby Av - \$550,000
2200 Browning St - \$680,000
1594 Capistrano Av - \$760,000
1222 Carleton St - \$571,500
1619 Cornell Av - \$535,000
2081 Eunice St - \$856,500
1526 Fairview St - \$800,000
2012 Hearst Av - \$655,000
2326 Hilgard Av - \$690,000
1164 Laurel St - \$1,500,000
2 Panoramic 305 - \$476,000
16 Robie Rd - \$1,516,000
1417 Spruce St A - \$803,000
84 Vicente Rd - \$1,325,000
2923 Wheeler St - \$747,500

EL CERRITO

748 Ashbury Av - \$665,000
537 Clayton Av - \$505,000
552 Colusia Av - \$595,000
1255 Contra Costa - \$925,000
541 Kearney St - \$702,000
7519 Leviston Av - \$560,000
836 Lexington Av - \$830,000

EL SOBRANTE

5451 Cabrillo Sur - \$650,000
4856 El Grande Pl - \$615,000
5855 Marion Ct - \$530,000
17 Olinda Ct - \$659,000
5318 Ridgeview E9 - \$299,000

EMERYVILLE

1121 40th St 4306 - \$400,000

5 Admiral Dr F404 - \$285,000
186 City Limits Cr - \$572,000
3 Commodore Dr - \$360,000
94 Emery Bay Dr - \$475,000

KENSINGTON

443 Beloit Av - \$688,000
418 Berkeley Park Bl - \$712,000
400 Yale Av - \$720,000

OAKLAND

2029 107th Av - \$470,000
2401 107th Av - \$450,000
2520 108th Av - \$394,000
655 12th St 318 - \$460,000
1515 14th Av 302 - \$429,000
2546 14th Av - \$500,000
2828 21st Av - \$530,000
811 22nd St - \$520,000
2604 23rd Av - \$376,000
2238 24th Av - \$587,000
2126 27th Av - \$500,000
532 30th St 15 - \$375,000
532 30th St - \$425,000
1366 34th St - \$490,000
973 39th St - \$595,000
1416 50th Av - \$469,000
1086 54th St - \$760,000
2601 55th Av - \$645,000
747 55th St - \$785,000
875 57th St - \$725,000
862 59th St - \$460,000
1251 60th Av - \$379,000
673 60th St - \$490,000
1490 66th Av - \$375,000
1632 67th Av - \$500,000
1039 70th Av - \$250,000
1650 70th Av - \$460,000
1126 71st Av - \$395,000
1006 75th Av - \$450,000
2701 75th Av - \$285,000
2844 76th Av - \$550,000
2630 77th Av - \$400,000
2754 79th Av - \$692,000
1425 7th Av - \$615,000
1908 81st Av - \$410,000
2226 82nd Av - \$380,000
1234 84th Av - \$430,000
1028 85th Av - \$395,000
2236 87th Av - \$500,000
1518 90th Av - \$400,000
1649 94th Av - \$485,000
1684 Arrowhead - \$315,000
7007 Arthur St - \$480,000
1925 Asilomar Dr - \$1,000,000
3724 Balfour Av - \$890,000
4417 Bancroft Av - \$481,000
9932 Bayo St - \$533,000
3035 Burr St - \$617,000
680 Capell St - \$646,500
1547 Chandler 100 - \$520,000
6623 Chelton Dr - \$790,000
4650 Congress Av - \$358,000
460 Crescent St - \$337,000
4100 Culver St - \$529,000
3575 Davis St - \$363,000

1130 East 11th St - \$355,000
5743 East 16th St - \$450,000
915 East 28th St - \$465,000
647 El Paseo Dr - \$400,000
3755 Emerson Wy - \$700,000
5345 Estates Dr - \$912,000
55 Fairmount 313 - \$436,000
112 Fairmount Av - \$625,000
2556 Frances St - \$521,000
2794 Frazier Av - \$613,000
3921 Fruitvale Av - \$642,500
48 Gleneden Av - \$875,500
5544 Golden Gate - \$460,000
10765 Golf Links Rd - \$725,000
3768 Harrison St 202 - \$465,000
2400 Havenscourt Bl - \$635,000
9914 Heskett Rd - \$410,000
5611 Holway St - \$410,000
7210 Homewood Dr - \$528,000
2424 Kingsland Av - \$520,000
1 Lakeside Dr 1810 - \$720,000
1 Lakeside Dr 406 - \$437,000
2322 Laurel Av - \$437,000
9808 Lawlor St - \$500,000
295 Lenox Av 303 - \$380,000
3709 Lily St - \$527,000
7625 Lockwood St - \$550,000
3951 Lyman Rd - \$730,000
5937 MacCall St - \$590,000
9744 Maddux Dr - \$410,000
3060 Madeline St - \$620,000
2834 Magnolia St - \$414,000
5607 Merriewood - \$665,000
3114 Minna Av - \$465,000
2950 Morcom Av - \$485,000
1901 Myrtle St - \$430,000
567 Oakland Av 302 - \$305,000
1957 Oakview Dr - \$859,500
6649 Oakwood Dr - \$813,000
9903 Olive St - \$430,000
430 Panoramic Wy - \$815,500
929 Panoramic Wy - \$795,000
2418 Park Bl 1 - \$750,000
459 Phelps St - \$425,000
6650 Pine Needle Dr - \$800,000
921 Pine St - \$300,000
7121 Phippen Rd - \$900,000
10415 Pippin St - \$350,000
1866 Pleasant Valley - \$465,000
2833 Regatta Dr - \$615,000
2843 Regatta Dr - \$704,000
2847 Regatta Dr - \$688,500
2849 Regatta Dr - \$728,500
6441 Regent St - \$877,000
721 Rosal Av - \$855,000
5268 Shafter Av - \$655,000
6610 Shattuck Av - \$539,000
26 Shawnee Ct - \$1,415,000
8607 Skyline Bl - \$750,000
942 Sunnyside - \$935,000
1436 Trestle Glen Rd - \$975,000
4618 Tulip Av - \$560,000
330 Vernon St 408 - \$395,000
5448 Wadean Pl - \$417,000
5311 Wentworth Av - \$495,000
1 W. Emb'adero 247 - \$330,500
5 W. Emb'adero 326 - \$376,000
3 W. Emb'adero 344 - \$285,000

3218 West St - \$565,000
930 Wood St - \$515,000

PIEDMONT

142 Sandringham - \$1,365,000
29 Sierra Av - \$4,000,000

RICHMOND

619 11th St - \$445,000
1124 18th St - \$515,000
516 22nd St - \$600,000
422 30th St - \$520,000
544 35th St - \$539,000
1201 Brickyard 104 - \$555,000
2000 Burbuck Av - \$425,000
5541 Carlos Av - \$600,000
614 Commodore Dr - \$555,000
2729 Cutting Bl - \$300,000
1936 Dunn Av - \$450,000
2112 Esmond Av - \$349,000
2117 Esmond Av - \$510,000
5400 Esmond Av - \$490,000
5007 Fray Av - \$525,000
3147 Grey Hawk - \$630,000
6349 Highland Av - \$524,000
3108 Humphrey - \$455,000
6514 Kensington - \$175,000
876 Lassen St - \$425,000
1310 Mallard Dr - \$795,000
91 Marina Lakes 90 - \$330,000
3436 May Rd - \$553,000
3427 Maywood Dr - \$535,000
1205 Melville Sq 311 - \$400,000
3748 Morrisville Dr - \$650,000
2534 Moyers Rd - \$545,000
3311 Park Ridge - \$897,500
3315 Park Ridge - \$950,000
3521 Park Ridge - \$905,000
516 Payne Dr - \$350,000
806 Poppy Ct - \$600,000
2031 Rheem Av - \$250,000
5354 Sandaleback Ct - \$775,000
4901 Santa Rita Rd - \$660,000
203 Seaview Dr - \$879,500
250 South 12th St - \$375,000
270 South 18th St - \$432,000
325 South 37th St - \$470,000
440 South Marina - \$370,000
5461 Tandem Ln - \$720,000
931 View Dr - \$480,000
1910 Visalia Av - \$418,000

SAN LEANDRO

1617 167th Av - \$338,000
1465 168th Av - \$550,000
817 Arguello Dr - \$580,500
653 Black Pine Dr - \$650,000
1242 Breckenridge - \$600,000
15603 Calgary St - \$498,000
1375 Chapel Av - \$550,000
2353 Cheshire Pl - \$557,000
16732 Cowell St - \$675,000
14994 Crosby St - \$571,000
782 Dolores Av - \$780,000
1352 Dorothy Av - \$572,000

14101 E. 14th 304 - \$400,000
1430 East Juana - \$745,500
15233 Elvina Dr - \$570,000
2306 Fairway Dr - \$355,000
2507 Gallion Pl - \$505,000
1554 Glen Dr - \$599,000
14954 Inlet Ct - \$675,000
1291 Kelly Av - \$500,000
431 Lewis Av - \$570,000
1217 Minerva St - \$579,000
1525 Mono Av - \$625,000
1776 Nelson Dr - \$450,000
935 Oakes Bl - \$665,000
14410 Outrigger Dr - \$423,000
2320 Overlook Ct - \$810,000
557 Superior Av - \$550,000
14891 Sylvia Wy - \$575,000
1008 Victoria Av - \$459,000
516 Warden Av - \$530,000
1871 Washington - \$688,000
2276 Wimbledon - \$550,000

SAN LORENZO

16916 Genevieve Pl - \$515,000
15755 Via Cordoba - \$650,000
15722 Via Esmond - \$605,000
1986 Via Lacqua - \$556,000
17631 Wickman Pl - \$355,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 19
LOWEST PRICE: \$273,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,250,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$700,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$683,579

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$525,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$780,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$601,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$635,333

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 17
LOWEST PRICE: \$476,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,516,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$747,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$818,794

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST PRICE: \$505,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$925,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$665,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$683,143

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$299,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$659,000

MEDIAN PRICE: \$700,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$683,579

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST PRICE: \$400,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$400,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$400,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$400,000

KENSINGTON

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST PRICE: \$688,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$712,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$699,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$700,000

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 19
LOWEST PRICE: \$273,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,250,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$700,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$683,579

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$425,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$4,000,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$512,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$1,212,500

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 19
LOWEST PRICE: \$273,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$1,250,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$700,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$683,579

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 19
LOWEST PRICE: \$273,00

1960 Studebaker Hawk never sees a drop of rain

BY VERN PARKER
MOTOR MATTERS

During its final decade, Studebaker produced various "Hawk" models. Designer Raymond Loewy created the sleek, sporty cars which captured the American motoring elite's attention, including that of the Moore family of Centerville, Texas. The Moors never got a Studebaker Hawk, and always regretted it, a sentiment shared by his three children, Steve, Amy and Andy, who heard repeatedly as they grew up.

In the autumn of 2000, the new adult siblings went shopping for a Studebaker Hawk. They found one for sale by the original owner in San Francisco. The car, a Sand-colored Studebaker Hawk manufactured in South Bend, Ind., on April 6, 1960, one of only 250 Hawks built that model year, was sold 16 days later to William J. Sweeney and Sons in Daly City with a base price of \$2,650.

The siblings purchased the 40-year-old car, and soon it was on the back of a truck heading for Texas.

CLASSIC CLASSICS

Initially, they had planned to make the car a Christmas present, but they couldn't wait. Consequently in 2000, Christmas came early for their father. "I was floored," Moore says when he was given his present. "It was really a lift-me-up."

Moore gave his Hawk a thorough physical and discovered a few parts that needed attention. He installed a totally new brake system, including all the plumbing, cylinders and pistons. "I enjoy driving it," he said.

When Moore received his car, the odometer read 46,000 miles, which he believes to be accurate from the overall condition of the Studebaker. The 289-cubic-inch V8 engine was found to be in excellent, unharmed condition. The standard engine was topped by a two-barrel carburetor and was rated at 210 horsepower. Moore's Hawk came equipped with the optional four-barrel Carter carburetor,

which boosts the horsepower rating up to 225. "It's a peppy little car," Moore said.

That original Carter carburetor has been replaced by Moore with a four-barrel Edelbrock carburetor, which he considers more reliable. "What with overdrive," Moore said, "it delivers 24 mpg." The gasoline tank holds 18 gallons.

In order for the car to run on radial tires, Moore was forced to buy five new wheels which could accommodate the modern tires. The tires support the car on a remarkably lengthy 120.5-inch wheelbase.

A complete set of white on black instruments, including a vacuum gauge, clock and tachometer are mounted in a machine-turned dashboard. "It's a beautiful dash," Moore said.

While many cars of that era had heaters, Studebaker offered a "Climateizer," located beneath the right front passenger's seat.

The upholstery, while somewhat worn, is believed to be the interior

See HAWK, Page D4



MOORE'S 1960 HAWK is equipped with the hill holder. When coming to a stop either uphill or downhill clutch is depressed, followed by the application of the brake until the car is halted. At that point the driver can remove his foot from the brake and, as long as the clutch is held to the floor, the car will not roll.

Porsche promotes sport utility vehicle safety — both active and passive

DAVE VAN SICKLE
MOTOR MATTERS

Just look around and you're bound to see them. Sport utility vehicles are everywhere. They range from compact car-based economy models to behemoths built on truck platforms. And several years ago Porsche entered the fast-growing luxury SUV segment with its popular Cayenne.

But all SUVs are not created equal, and each year close to 10,000 people die in SUV-related crashes. So at Porsche, the focus is on more than driving enjoyment — it's also on safety.

Active safety refers to systems such as anti-lock brakes that help avoid a crash, while passive safety systems such as airbags help protect occupants during a crash. When considering an SUV, Porsche suggests looking for both active and passive safety features.

Four-wheel independent suspension allows each wheel to respond individually to bumps in the road, and helps increase the chances that all wheels stay on the ground during abrupt evasive maneuvers. By contrast, some SUVs have a solid rear axle that makes it difficult for the rear wheels to react individually to bumps. The Porsche Cayenne features independent suspension at all four corners, contributing to handling similar to that of a sport sedan.

An all-wheel drive or four-wheel drive system channels power to all four wheels to provide traction and handling advantages, particularly in inclement weather. All Cayennes come with the Porsche Traction Management permanent four-wheel drive system as standard equipment.

With a unibody structure, steel

DOWN THE ROAD

stampings are assembled into a complete body structure that serves as the vehicle's chassis. All suspension components are attached to this structure. This differs from a body-on-frame design where a steel frame is used as the main structure and the body shell is bolted to it. Most sedans and sports cars have unibody structures, while body-on-frame designs are used in most trucks and large SUVs. Many experts agree that a unibody structure is better. A unibody is lighter and offers a lower center of gravity for better stability, and its increased rigidity further enhances handling.

A 2004 Insurance Institute for Highway Safety study estimated a 56 percent reduction in fatal single-vehicle crashes for vehicles with Electronic Stability Control. ESC systems are designed to take corrective action when a loss of control is detected. ESC sensors measure variables such as wheel speed, engine speed, side-to-side acceleration, and yaw (rotation around a vertical axis), and signal the system to apply brakes to individual wheels to re-stabilize the vehicle.

Porsche introduced the Porsche Stability Management system, its version of ESC, in 1998 and today all Cayenne SUVs have PSM as standard equipment. On the Cayenne, PSM and the Porsche Traction Management four-wheel drive system are in constant communication to stabilize the vehicle in extreme steering conditions.

Porsche Active Suspension Management, part of Cayenne's optional air suspension system, further enhances handling. It helps

control body sway and dive motions by stiffening individual shock absorbers if body motion exceeds a certain limit due to driving style or surface conditions.

Anti-lock brakes allow the driver to brake hard while still being able to steer around obstacles. Since SUVs frequently carry heavy loads, it's also important to look for front and rear disc brakes. In 1990, Porsche made ABS disc brakes standard on all of its U.S. models.

Poor aerodynamics can generate lift at the front and/or rear of the vehicle, creating instability, particularly at highway speeds. The Cayenne behaves like a genuine sports car due to its streamlined shape. Spoilers at the leading edges of the wheels optimize airflow around wheel well openings, and the rear spoiler, along with the vehicle's shape, reduce rear axle lift.

According to a 2003 Insurance Institute Highway Safety study, head protection airbags showed a 45 percent reduction in risk of death in side crashes, and side airbags showed an 11 percent reduction. In 1986, the Porsche Turbo was the first European car sold in the U.S. market to have dual front airbags as standard equipment, and they became standard equipment on all U.S. Porsche models in 1990. All Cayenne models have dual front airbags, a pair of side impact airbags, and side curtain airbags extending from the front to the rear of the passenger compartment.

Driving a Cayenne isn't just about the enjoyment of driving an extremely capable SUV. It's also about realizing the benefits of driving a vehicle with some truly remarkable safety features.

According to the California Highway Patrol, any child who weighs less than 60 pounds, and/or is less than 6 years old, must be placed in a child safety seat in the rear of the vehicle, except for two-seater cars.

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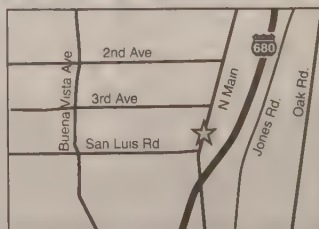
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From surfer SUV to classic treasure

BY JERRY GARRETT
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

The drive from Henry Trulson's home to Moonlight Beach is just five miles, but his journey to the Wavecrest Woodie Meet, held at that beach in Encinitas, Sept. 17 and 18, actually began in 1965. That year, he bought his first wood-body station wagon, a 1948 Chevrolet Fleetmaster that he drove to high school — and, with his surfboard on board, to the beach.

Trulson said he fondly remembers that he paid \$35 for the car. (It had a blown engine.) With less fondness, he remembers trading it a few years later for a stereo and some other trinkets, then spending the next 30 years regretting that swap and trying to find a replacement he could afford.

Trulson, a home inspector who lives in Carlsbad, near San Diego, has since settled on a 1948 Ford wagon, which he said has become more than a possession — It has shaped his lifestyle. A member of the National Woodie Club, he is chairman of the Wavecrest meet this year. He still surfs, too.

The show, which begins at 7 a.m. Saturday, brings together 300 woodie owners and their entourage to do what they always have: surf, cruise the beachfront in their cars, eat diner food and swap tales about how much they paid for their so-called termite traps.

"I learned to surf in Huntington Beach in the '60s, driving the 30 miles or so from West Covina in my woodie," Trulson said. "It was like living the movie 'The Endless

Summer.' Just like it."

The 1960s not only gave rise to the surf culture, the decade left its permanent stamp on the carefree, sunny lifestyle, at least in the popular imagination. And the woodie became an essential part of the lore. "A woodie was the perfect vehicle for a surfer," Trulson said, "because you could pick one up cheap. People had originally bought them in the 1930s and 1940s as utility vehicles. Mine came from Wyoming, where it had been a farm vehicle. I know that because there was prairie grass, weeds, seeds and leaves in the radiator — and hay and manure in the back!"

Automakers recommended that the wood framing and panels be sanded and refinished, or at least have a coat of marine varnish applied, every 6 to 12 months. Most owners could not be bothered.

"After a while, the owners would let the maintenance go on the wood, and they became too costly to restore," Trulson said.

The need for such frequent refinishing hurt the resale values of woodies, which were often the most expensive vehicles in a car line. Too much of an investment to abandon, but still mechanically sound, many sat unused for years.

Until, that is, bargain-hunting surfers started looking for them. Not only were woodies perfect for carrying 10-foot "longboards," they could be slept in. Perhaps just as important, the wood-framed sections would not rust away in the salt ocean air.

"You have to remember woodies were just the original station wagon," said Bob

Solheim, a National Woodie Club director. "They were the original SUV, used at dude ranches, train stations, estates and so on, to haul people and luggage. In the '50s and '60s, they were just cheap used cars."

The wood bodies creaked, flexed and leaked, even when new. Held together by dowels, bolts and glue, an old woodie groaned so loudly going down the road it was difficult to hear the Beach Boys crooning surf tunes on the radio, Trulson said.

Wood has been an essential ingredient in cars, either as a structural material or for decorative purposes, since the early days of the industry. Indeed, the first cars were little more than wood carriages or coaches with engines attached. Wood was supplanted only as auto manufacturers learned how to better shape steel sheets into the complex contours of fenders, hoods and doors. Many vehicles were built entirely of steel by the 1930s but wagons retained their wood framing until 1948.

The next year, automakers started to simply bolt wood pieces onto steel bodies, a practice that lasted just a few years before man-made materials took over entirely.

The 1953 Buick Roadmaster and Super Estate wagons, with trim of white ash and insets of mahogany, were among the last vehicles to use real wood body panels. Other popular types were birch and maple.

"Hardwoods were necessary to give it structural integrity," Solheim said.

A popular misconception was that the wood was steamed to make it conform to the curves of car bodies. In fact, the curved

swaths of wood over a wheel opening would usually be made of three or more separate boards stitched together with glued joints. This permitted a gentle arc in the finished piece while keeping the grain as parallel as possible to the body line.

Most wood car bodies were done by specialists who received bare chassis from carmakers. Manufacturers offering woodies with bodies by independent builders included all divisions of General Motors and Chrysler; Packard, Willys, Hupmobile, Graham, Hudson and Studebaker. A notable exception was Ford; in 1929, it started producing Model A woodie wagons manufactured entirely within its own factories — Ford even owned the forest. The 1953 Country Squire still featured birch exterior framing from Ford's own Iron Mountain, Mich., timber stands, but its fake wood grain insets leave some collectors sneering that it is not a true woodie.

Wood framing and body panels were not exclusive to station wagons. Stylish sedans and even convertibles, like the Chrysler Town and Country and the Ford Sportsman, were produced after World War II.

Today, accessory companies offer complete woodie bodies, from the windshield back, for as little as \$4,500. These recently made woodies seem to command nearly the same price that a well-maintained original can expect in today's collector market.

Even the owners of the garish imitation woodies of the recent past, like a 1991 Buick Roadmaster, are welcome to join the National Woodie Club.

"You see them around these meets from time to time," Solheim said. "But they really have no value as collectible vehicles, and never will."

For the 2002 model year, producing the Blackwood model based on an earlier model. Among the attractions of the new line were exterior panels of real wood on the cargo bed. Late in the process, plastic was substituted for wood, but the company said they could not assure the ability without maintenance. The no-wood Blackwood was canceled after just 4,000 units were produced.

"What a missed opportunity," said. "With real wood, the real classic on their hands."

"I don't know why car companies got this, but there's nothing like it."

How valuable are woodies?

Well, a 1939 Chrysler convertible, a 1948-49, \$140,000; a 1950 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1951 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1952 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1953 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1954 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1955 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1956 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1957 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1958 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1959 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1960 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1961 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1962 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1963 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1964 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1965 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1966 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1967 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1968 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1969 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1970 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1971 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1972 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1973 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1974 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1975 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1976 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; a 1977 Ford Sportsman, \$140,000; 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All-new Jeep Commander has more power, roominess

DAN LYONS
MOTOR MATTERS

Jeep has a long history of building vehicles to take people almost anywhere. Now, it has made that history a little longer — literally.

With the new Commander, Jeep introduces its first-ever sport utility vehicle with seven passenger seating. Compared to the Grand Cherokee, the new model is stretched 2 inches longer and 4 inches higher. Familiar styling cues like Jeep's signature seven-slot grille blend with new elements, such as the stacked, round headlights and bolt-on style rear fenders. Overall, Commander is distinctly more angular than other Jeeps. Its squared off look conjures up the classic Willys Wagons and Jeep Wagoneers.

To get extra room inside, Jeep took a novel approach outside by raising the roof. Starting at a point just above the second row, Jeep stepped up the roofline about 3 inches. This design has been used on other SUVs and the effect here is the same — enough headroom to whisk and a stovetop hat revival. Though, noticeable inside for the room it creates, the kick-up top is cleverly hidden outside by the roof rack rails lining either side.

Since the inside story on the newest Jeep is inside, we'll go there first. Up front, the driver and passenger see a two-tone dash outfitted with a logical layout of controls. The second row seats two or three comfortably, but 6-footers will be tight on legroom if big people are in the front seats. Row three is perfect for kids and occasional adult use. If you're carrying a full load of passengers, there isn't much room left for luggage (7.5 cubic feet). However, second- and third-row seats split and fold, so the space can be set up to best suit the ride: cargo, or some of both. Drop the third row down and there's 36.4 cubic feet for storage. Drop the second row to create 68.9 cubic feet. Lifter height in back is low when folded, the seats form a flat load floor. Drivers will keep the third row down as the second row headrests are not needed, to improve visibility. The engines and three four-drive systems are available. Choose from a 3.7-liter, 210-horsepower V6 engine, a 4.7-liter, 300-horsepower V8, or a 5.7-liter,

GET OFF THE ROAD

330-horsepower Hemi V8. Transmissions are five-speed automatics only; no manual is available. As to the chassis, the first 4x4 option is Quadra-Trac I; a full-time all-wheel drive system. The upgrade is Quadra-Trac II, which has a two-speed transfer case with low range for improved off-road performance.

For maximum traction, there's Quadra-Drive II. It has a dual-range transfer case and electronic, front and rear limited-slip differentials. When tires slip, they quickly channel available torque to the axle and wheel with the best grip. All of the above are combined with a host of standard, electronic safety and stability aids — Brake Traction Control System, Electronic Stability Program, Electronic Roll Mitigation, Anti-Lock Brakes and Traction Control — all charged with keeping you headed in the right direction.

People expect anything with a Jeep badge on it to be able to hit the dirt with confidence, and Commander does not disappoint. I sampled Quadra-Trac I and Quadra-Drive II and found them both sure footed and (in the case of Q-DII) exceptionally capable off-road. Commander has good clearance beneath (8.6") and ample angles of approach, breakover and departure (34, 20 and 27 degrees). It tackles off-road trails with gusto that belies its size. All 4x4 models are fitted with undercarriage protection plates to shield critical components from rock damage.

On road, Commander handles

well for its size, providing a smooth ride. I drove the 3.7-liter V6 and the Hemi V8, both of which work well with their respective, five-speed transmissions. The former engine has decent power and can tow as much as 3,500 pounds. The power of the Hemi will pull up to 7,200 pounds. Gas mileage on both is typical of big SUVs, which is not so hot. The EPA rates the six at 17 mpg city/21 highway, while the Hemi clocks 14/19. Two models are offered, base and Limited. Prices start at \$27,985 for 4x2s; \$29,985 for 4x4s.

Commander fills out the Jeep product lineup, allowing it to compete in a segment of the 4x4 market where it formerly had no player. Now, if you need three row seating and want proven, off-road capability, add a new name to your shortlist: Jeep Commander.

WITH THE NEW COMMANDER,

top right, Jeep introduces its first-ever sport utility vehicle with seven passenger seating. Fold the third row down and there is 36.4 cubic feet for storage. Drop the second row to create 68.9 cubic feet, bottom right. Lifter height in back is low and when folded, the seats form a flat load floor. CommandView dual skylights, below, feature tinted glass panels mounted above the second-row seats and the power sunroof is equipped with express open/close and comfort-stop features.



MOTOR MATTER



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Smaller SUVs, crossovers overtaking the biggest versions

BY RICK POPELY
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

CHICAGO — As Scott Welch, a partner in a Huntley, Ill., concrete business, shopped for a new vehicle in late August to haul his family on vacation, the price of gas was topping \$3 a gallon.

Welch shrugged off the record gas prices and zeroed in on a Chevrolet Suburban, one of the biggest and thirstiest sport-utility vehicles.

Does he really need a Suburban when regular gas is so expensive and there is a looming threat of shortages, due in part to the havoc caused by Hurricane Katrina?

"You probably don't, but if you've got the means, why not?" Welch said while shopping at Stasek Chevrolet in Wheeling, Ill.

In Welch's mind, it's the right tool for the job, regardless of gas prices. His family outgrew a Dodge Durango, a midsize SUV. He drives a full-size Chevy pickup for work, and his wife hauls the kids and shops for groceries in a Ford Windstar minivan.

Neither vehicle, he says, can carry his family, which includes three children age 4 to 10, their bikes, fishing gear and other paraphernalia, and tow a 15-foot boat.

With some SUV owners paying more than \$100 to fill their tanks, automakers worry about how many consumers like Welch will step up to buy the huge SUVs, among the industry's most profitable vehicles.

SUV sales are up about 3 percent through August, but sales of the largest models, including the Suburban and Ford Expedition, are

down nearly 10 percent as buyers shift to smaller models and car-based SUV "crossovers."

Industry forecaster J.D. Power and Associates predicts business will pick up on the big barges next year, when General Motors and Ford roll out fresh entries, but others aren't so sure.

"There's no doubt we're seeing the effects of fuel prices on the bigger SUVs," said Bill Stasek, president of the Wheeling Chevrolet dealership. "People just aren't asking for them when they come in."

The Power Information Network, J.D. Power's data-gathering unit, says that in mid-August, full-size SUVs had sat on dealer lots an average of 102 days before being sold, compared to 70 days for mid-size models and 62 for small models.

Stasek saw that during GM's employee discount promotion, when buyers snapped up midsize SUVs such as the Equinox and TrailBlazer faster than Suburbans.

Recently, Stasek still had nine 2005 Suburbans in stock and only three TrailBlazers. Normally, the reverse would be true.

"The biggest, most expensive models have taken a bit of a hit because of gas prices," he said, adding that he plans to order fewer 2006 versions of the big models.

But Mike Puffer, sales manager at MidCity Nissan in Chicago, dismissed the effects of gas prices.

"I call it the street tax to keep your wife happy. If you're smart, you'll pay it," Puffer said. "When you have a mom with six kids, a dog and the kids are on a soccer team, you need a vehicle like that."

Gas prices didn't stop Chicago resident Nick Lococo from trading a five-passenger GMC Yukon for a new Nissan Pathfinder, a larger SUV that seats seven and has more cargo room.

"With two kids, we need the space, and my wife feels safer in an SUV," Lococo said, citing traditional reasons people buy SUVs. "If it's safer for my wife and kids, that's better for me."

The EPA estimates the Pathfinder gets 15 m.p.g. in city driving (same as the Envoy), though many motorists complain they get less than the government's ratings.

"Sure that's a concern, especially when they say that gas prices are going up," said Lococo, an exercise therapist for the Veterans Administration. "We'll have to be more strategic with our driving and plan our trips more efficiently."

Because big SUVs generate most of the domestic Big Three's profits, the stakes are high for Detroit.

GM will introduce a new generation of full-size models in January, and Ford will follow suit in the fall. Chrysler's Jeep division rolls out the full-size Commander this fall.

Sales of large SUVs at GM and Ford have been falling the last few years and plunged more than 20 percent earlier this year, prompting production cuts. Then came the employee discounts, which knocked \$8,000 or more off sticker prices and outweighed consumer worries about gas prices.

Now, as gas prices hit record levels, Hurricane Katrina has idled

See SMALLER, Page D8

Scooter sales pick up with rise in gas prices

BY MARIA M. PEROTIN
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

FORT WORTH, Texas — Fed up with the \$60 price of filling his pickup truck's gas tank, Dan Fuller wanted a cheaper alternative.

So much cheaper that he gave up four wheels recently in favor of a zippy, fuel-efficient motor scooter.

Fuller and his wife, Lynn, spent about \$2,800 on a Vespa ET2 scooter, which notched about 80 miles to the gallon during a weekend of shopping and visiting relatives.

By the time the pair pulled up to a gas pump for the first time, Fuller paid a whopping \$1.28 to top off the Vespa's tank.

"It was kind of funny pulling out the debit card for that," he said.

The Fort Worth couple's switch reflects a substantial increase in scooter sales in the area as gas prices have climbed in recent months, according to local sellers.

At University Scooters of Dallas, which sold Fuller his scooter, sales are up 400 percent over last year, owner Randy Campbell said in late August. And mid-August was a record-breaker for the 2-year-old shop.

"A year ago, I bet you one in 10 people asked maybe what kind of gas mileage it got. They wanted to know what colors you had and how fast it would go," Campbell said. "Now, the first question everybody has is: What kind of gas mileage does it get?"

Campbell's scooters, from four different manufacturers, get 60 to 100 miles per gallon and reach top speeds of 40 to 95 miles per hour, depending on the model, he said.

Mike Strausser, sales manager at Honda Kawasaki West in Fort Worth, has seen a similar shift among customers in recent weeks.

Strausser said he usually keeps about 20 scooters in stock, in addition to his dealership's inventory of motorcycles. But the scooters have been so popular that he's running out.

"I'm going to bring some more of them in, because probably some people are going to buy them," he said. "It's all about gasoline. It's all about mileage."

The focus on fuel is so great that



MORE THAN A JOY RIDE: Dan and Lynn Fuller tool around town on their new Vespa scooter. Fullers decided to switch from four-wheel transportation to save money at the gas pump.

A year ago, I bet you one in 10 people asked maybe what kind of gas mileage it got. They wanted to know what colors you had and how fast it would go. Now, the first question everybody has is: What kind of gas mileage does it get?

Strausser's warning to one customer, that her plan to replace a truck with a scooter would expose her to rain and cold during her daily commute, didn't faze her.

"She said, 'I have a jacket, I have a raincoat,'" he said. "People start making different sacrifices."

Motorcycle buyers have become more fuel-conscious, too, he said,

and many shoppers are looking for any transportation option that will allow them to park their gas-guzzling vehicles.

"The conversation has changed to nothing but fuel in the whole industry in the last four to six weeks," Strausser said.

That's been sparked by a dramatic rise in gasoline prices.

The change among more middle-class and students toward scooters, in addition to the fuel used to be the most common mode of transport, Campbell said. "I hope it lasts," he said.

See SCOOTER, Page D8

Impala

FROM PAGE D2

model has a new 3.5-liter, 211-horsepower V-6, replacing a 180-horsepower 3.4-liter V-6 that was standard in 2005. Chevy's new mid-level engine is a 3.9-liter V-6 with 242 horsepower, replacing last year's 200-horse, 3.8-liter V-6; it even has two more horsepower than that supercharged 3.8-liter in the 2005 Impala SS. Incidentally, this engine line is identical for the 2006 Monte Carlo, which follows the Impala by about three months and is built on the same platform.

Both V-6s and the V-8 share the familiar four-speed automatic, with beefed-up internals for the V-8. Yes, a five-speed automatic was considered, but budget concerns and the general reliability of the four-speed earned it the job.

Impala's 3.5-liter V-6 — EPA-rated at 21 mpg in the city, 31 mpg on the highway and E85-capable (meaning it can run on fuel that is 85 percent ethanol) — is good enough that we wonder if the 3.9-liter is needed.

The V-8 has "displacement on demand" — meaning the car's computer shuts off four cylinders when they aren't needed, thus saving fuel — and that action is moderately seamless. Helpfully, a display on the dash lets you know how many cylinders are working, and when. Fuel mileage is improved up to 8 percent with DOD, Chevy says: EPA for the V-8 is 18 mpg city, 28 highway.

Inside, Impala's redesigned interior is quite nice, even on the base LS model. The LT is the next step up, and the only one offered with the 3.5 or 3.9 engines. The LTZ has only the 3.9. The SS, which Chevy figures will account for about 10 percent of Impala sales, has that all-aluminum 5.3 plus a slightly stiffer suspension and bigger 18-inch tires and wheels. The SS has the stiffest suspension of the Impala quartet, but it is considerably less stiff than its V-8-powered cousin, the Pontiac Grand Prix GXP.

As before, six adults can fit in the Impala, but five would be happier. A flip-down center console makes the front bench seat seem like a pair of buckets. The neatest interior update: Rear seat-bottom cushions tilt forward, minivanlike, and the seatbacks fold flat. That space opens to the 18.6-cubic-foot trunk.

An OnStar communications system is standard on all Impalas. Several stereo systems are offered; but none have cassette players. They do, however, have accessory plug-ins for your iPod.

Antilock brakes are packaged with traction control, and that package is optional on the LS and LT, standard on the other models. Brakes are four-wheel disc.

Feature for feature, the 2006 Impala is less expensive than the 2005 model, with the LS starting at \$21,990 with shipping. The SS starts at \$27,790, and, with every option, tops out at \$31,415.

The Impala will continue to be a quiet hero for Chevrolet, but with the V-8, it's a little less quiet.

To save fuel drive slower, drive less

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. — Have climbing gasoline prices finally grabbed your attention? Apparently at least some drivers have taken notice and are taking action. I did my radio show from a local dealership recently and was amazed to find a line of light trucks, SUVs and "gas guzzling" sedans outside the front door.

Owners of these vehicles were parked out front when the dealership opened that morning, ready to trade them in on more fuel-efficient vehicles.

Do you find yourself staring at the price on the huge sign in front of the station as you're inserting the fuel hose into your vehicle, praying you won't see the numbers go up before you finish filling the tank?

Do you watch the dollars and gallons roll up on the pump itself, resigned to paying more than you did last time?

It's time to stand up and shout out, "I'm not going to take it anymore," and do something about high fuel costs. But here's the key: Be smart about what you do. Trading your 15-miles-per-gallon

truck for a 25-mpg sedan might look very attractive the next time you fill up, but how much fuel will you need to save to pay for the difference in vehicle costs?

This may or may not be a good time to trade your gas guzzler, but there's little question that its trade-in or resale value has dropped significantly in recent weeks because of higher fuel prices at the pump.

So, while I hope you can find exactly the right fuel-efficient vehicle — in my case it would be the new C6 Corvette, which can deliver more than 30 mpg at steady highway speeds — there are a number of steps you can take to improve the efficiency of your current vehicle and reduce the number of dollars you spend at the pump.

I know, I know, you've heard all the "tips" that help mileage. Accelerate gently from a stop, look ahead on the highway so you can maintain a steady speed, use the cruise control whenever possible, minimize the use of air conditioning, coast toward stop signs ... blah, blah, blah.

There are a number of steps you can take to improve the efficiency of your current vehicle and reduce the number of dollars you spend at the pump.

And for your vehicle itself, make sure tire pressures are at least 30 psi, the engine is tuned up and running right, the air filter's clean ... blah, blah, blah.

Tired of hearing all this because you've been there, done that ... right? Yet you're still barely getting double-digit fuel mileage? Is there anything else you can do that will improve fuel mileage?

Yes. Focus on the two most important "D's" in "driving": Drive slower, and drive less. Pretty simple concepts, but absolutely the two most important factors in how much fuel you use.

First, "drive slower." Reducing your speed on the freeway from 75-80 mph to 60-65 mph will significantly improve your vehicle's fuel mileage. Why?

Aerodynamics. The "drag" on a moving vehicle, which is the resistance to the air, rises at the square of the vehicle's speed.

Here's an example of "math." Doubling speed from 30 mph to 60 mph increases drag by a factor of four. Well, that's not a very significant improvement, is it? Well, it is. I've experienced this on my own track.

At speeds above 30 mph, even in relatively aerodynamic race cars, just lifting your foot off the throttle of the unpowered IROC Camaro will significantly improve the aerodynamic drag on the car's body.

See SAVE, Page D8

It's what's underneath: These Jeeps built on car chassis

BY G. CHAMBERS WILLIAMS III
SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS

Will consumers buy Jeeps that aren't really Jeeps?

Jeep parent DaimlerChrysler hopes so. In fact, the company believes there is a strong-enough business case in favor of such a move that it is investing millions of dollars to launch two all-new Jeep-branded vehicles for model year 2007, at least one of which will not have the traditional Jeep off-road capability.

For now called the Patriot and the Compass, both will be cars underneath — based on the chassis platform of the 2007 Dodge Caliber hatchback, which next year will replace the lowly Neon as the entry-level model in the Dodge lineup.

Both will be built along with the Caliber on the same assembly line at Chrysler's Belvidere, Ill., factory.

Jeep will display at the Detroit auto show in January.

They are meant to be entry-level Jeep products that are smaller and less expensive than the cheapest Jeep now, which is the base Liberty for about \$21,000 (but selling as low as \$16,000 with discounts and rebates in some areas).

Competitors would be such vehicles as the Scion xB, Kia Sportage, Honda Element and CR-V, and Suzuki Grand Vitara, among others.

The company's announcement of the Patriot shows a vehicle about the same size and shape as the Jeep Cherokee, which was discontinued when Jeep brought out the Liberty for 2002 to replace it.

The Patriot has the same boxy shape of

the compact Cherokee, which was in production from the early '80s until 2001.

That shape, though, was derived from the larger Jeep Wagoneer, which arguably was the first sport utility vehicle based on the criteria we use today. The Wagoneer ran from the '60s into the '80s; a 1965 model was my first off-road vehicle, which I owned in the early '70s when I was editor of a weekly newspaper in the Cumberland Mountains of East Tennessee.

When the Cherokee went out of production, Jeep officials hinted that it could return in a similar form later on, and said it might be based on the chassis of the Jeep Wrangler.

The Patriot appears to be that replacement, although it's on a car chassis rather than the Wrangler platform, and also apparently won't be using the Cherokee name.

The problem with using "Cherokee" on the vehicle is that although Jeep named the Cherokee's replacement in 2002 the Liberty for the U.S. market, the vehicle we know as the Liberty is called the Cherokee in the markets outside the United States where it is sold.

Jeep does have a lot of brand equity in the Cherokee name, and of course still uses it as part of the name of its Grand Cherokee model, which is a completely different vehicle from either the Liberty or the discontinued Cherokee.

The Patriot does have a distinctive new grille that looks somewhat like that of the Liberty and the new Grand Cherokee and Commander (a new, three-seat SUV for 2006 based on the Grand Cherokee).

As an almost lifelong fan of Jeep products and the current owner of the Grand

Cherokee, I'm OK with the Patriot concept, as it apparently will have true off-road capability with an available four-wheel-drive system with two-speed transfer case.

But I have some reservations about the other concept, the Compass.

Jeep describes it this way: "It's a contemporary styled Jeep concept that targets new buyers who might have previously considered the brand. Compact and nimble, 1/4 the % Jeep Compass concept is the right size for world markets and is designed to offer a fun-to-drive experience, performance and fuel economy unexpected in the highly competitive compact SUV segment."

No mention is made of it having Jeep's traditional "trail rated" capability. Nor does the blurb say anything about four-wheel drive.

My guess is that the Compass (if that's what Jeep will call the production vehicle) will at least be offered with optional all-wheel drive, a system that won't have low-range gearing. But, like the Subaru that are so popular in snow country, it probably will be capable of getting people to the ski resorts on snowy highways in Colorado and such.

In fact, as I told a Chrysler representative I talked to this week about these vehicles, who could tell me no more than I've already told you, it probably would be insulting to snow-belt Jeep customers and dealers to offer a Jeep that didn't have at least a simple all-wheel-drive system like that found in all Subarus.

Of course, Jeep already sells a lot of vehicles that aren't trail rated. They are two-wheel-drive versions of the Grand Cherokee, Liberty and Commander, sold mostly in Sun Belt areas, where most people refuse to con-

sider paying extra for four-wheel drive. I don't think they believe they're wrong.

My Grand Cherokee is a sophisticated four-wheel-drive system with a trail rated.

If Jeep did come out with a car-based drive system, snow-belt customers wouldn't be interested.

DaimlerChrysler wants to sell the Compass as an export vehicle. Jeep's presence in other countries is limited by the way these vehicles handle weather conditions that would make wheel drive, these vehicles wouldn't need that capability.

I'm not sure, though, why Jeep's that have only one-wheel drive. To me, Jeep is all about off-road capability, and I wouldn't want a car-based drive system without a good four-wheel-drive system.

But I suppose there are people who like the way these vehicles handle even if only on pavement. And if they're buying enough Jeeps to be brand profitable, I can't complain. I never want Jeep to go away.

I'm probably not going to buy a Compass, though.

That new Commander is a nice car, however. That's a real shame. I'll snag one of those when I trade my Grand Cherokee.

Send your car questions to Williams via e-mail or to Mr. Williams, San Antonio Express-News, P.O. Box 1400, San Antonio, TX 78297-2171. Or e-mail: gwilliams@express-news.net.

Will gas hikes actually change Americans' driving habits?

BY MICHELLE KREBS
MOTOR MATTERS

My teenage daughter called me the evening I was watching CNN's coverage of Hurricane Katrina, which struck the Gulf Coast that very day. She was filling up the family car at a local gas station. "Mom," she said in a shocked tone. "You should see this. Cars are lined up to buy gas. I've never waited in line for gasoline."

In the days to follow, newspapers were filled with stories of shortages of gasoline, due to the hurricane's destruction of America's most critical energy hubs. Photos showed gasoline pumps not seen in this country since the oil crisis of the 1970s. Memories of when I was about my daughter's age came rushing back. I remember the 1970's gas

SHE'S FREEWHEELING

lines, though I was saved from waiting in those lines since we had our own fuel pump that was a priority fill-up because we were a working farm.

My daughter had been noting in the weeks leading up to the hurricane the price of gas edging higher. Little did she know that her next fill-up would cost (cost me, that is) at least \$3 a gallon, if she could get it.

I was reminded of what economists, particularly those from the Big Three, had told me many times over the years about the impact of gas prices on consumer's vehicle-buying habits: It's less the price of oil that impacts con-

sumers but more the availability of fuel.

On the weekend before the hurricane, I was at my cottage in Canada — where gas is always significantly higher than in the United States. I was test-driving the new Chevrolet HHR, a small vehicle to compete against Chrysler's PT Cruiser. Its retro-look captured the attention of numerous people. And after they looked it over, their first question was always: "How is it on fuel?" Between 22 and 30 miles per gallon, I told them. Most of the questions came from folks — lots of them women — driving minivans and sport utilities, which surely didn't achieve that level of fuel efficiency.

In the week to follow, General Motors executives told financial analysts it was making progress in its

efforts to become profitable again, but that rising gas prices and continuing negotiations with its unions over labor costs were complicating its efforts. So, too, were slowing sales of large sport utilities, a major source of GM profits. Slowing sales of large vehicles doesn't bode well for GM, which relies more on big vehicles for profits than the little HHR I was testing. In fact, GM accelerated the introduction of its next-generation full-size sport utilities and full-size pickups, due out next year, to bail it out of its financial crisis.

About the same time, a column in The New York Times talked about the car-pool lanes in some major metropolitan areas that had opened to hybrid-electric vehicles, but were being so clogged by them that some jurisdictions were

considering rescinding the hybrids' privileges in the fast lane.

The subject of hybrids is coming up more often in my conversations with ordinary citizens. A number mentioned to me recently that they would consider a hybrid as their next vehicle.

Hybrids in 2004 accounted for a scant 0.5 percent of the total U.S. market, which amounted to about 80,000 of the 17 million new vehicles sold last year. That percentage, however, is expected to increase significantly to 3.5 percent by 2012, according to a report by J.D. Power-LMC Automotive Forecasting Services in Westlake Village, Calif. Other forecasters predict even higher numbers. Kelley Blue Book, a vehicle information resource best known for its pricing guides, recently con-

ducted a consumer survey that suggests hybrids could account to 6 percent (680,000 vehicles) of the U.S. car market.

"Higher gas prices are acting as a catalyst for automakers and consumers to find alternatives to the traditional gasoline internal combustion engine," said Anthony Pratt, senior manager of global powertrain forecasting at J.D. Power-LMC.

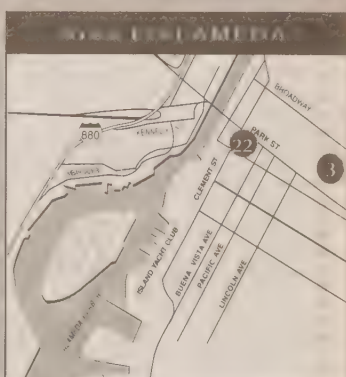
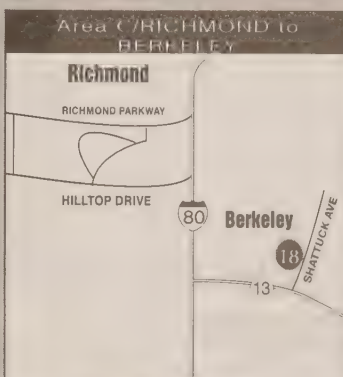
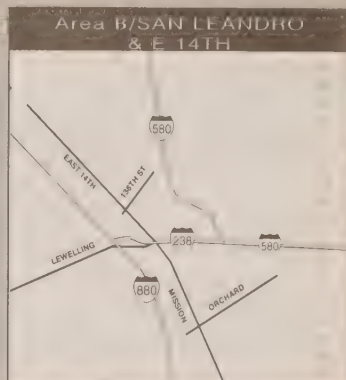
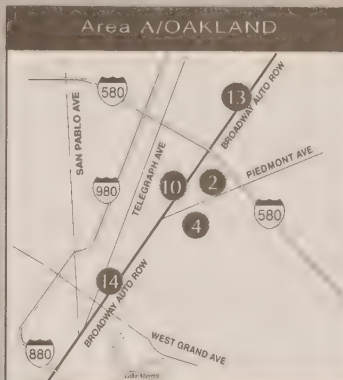
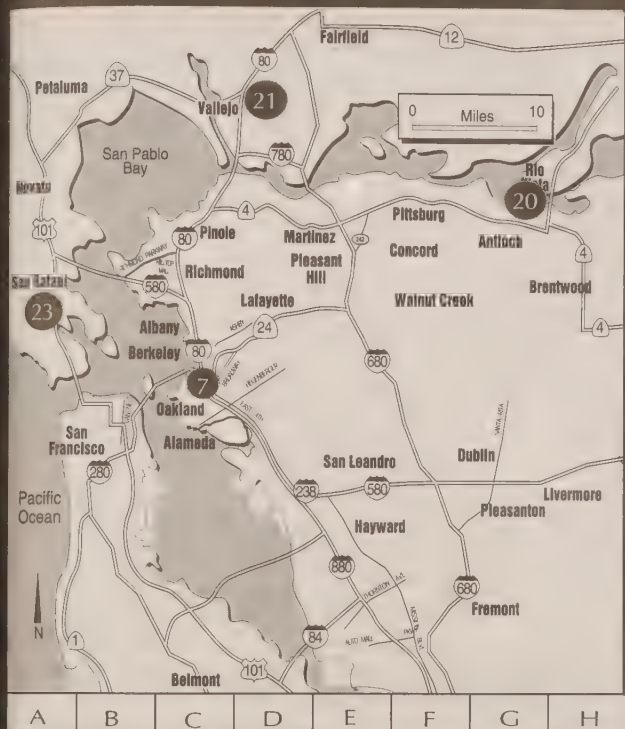
And with \$3-plus a gallon of gas, the math may start to work. I wonder: Are these short-lived circumstances that will fade as distant memories or is this the tipping point for Americans to shift their buying patterns away from gas guzzlers to fuel sippers? Time will tell.

To reach Michelle Krebs, send e-mail to michkrebs@aol.com.

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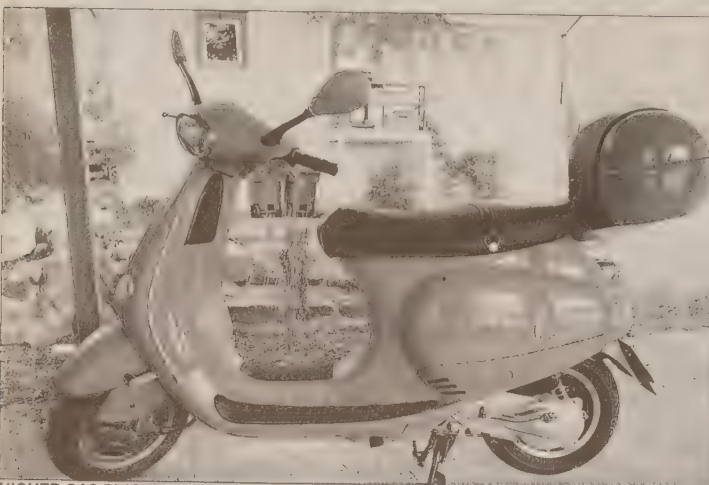
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HIGHER GAS PRICES drove scooter sales up over 400 percent from this time last year. Dan and Lynn Fuller settled on this Vespa model. Their first trip to the gas station cost a whopping \$1.28.

Scooter

FROM PAGE D6

hired a new employee this morning. I need more staffing just because of how busy it is."

In fact, sales are so brisk that Campbell is looking at properties to add a Fort Worth location soon.

"We've delivered quite a few bikes to Arlington and Fort Worth this month (August)," he said. "It's not just an inner-city thing either."

Smaller

FROM PAGE D6

Gulf Coast refineries and ignited fears of shortages. All that considered, Stasek said it's a tough call on what will happen to large SUV sales when the big discounts expire at the end of September.

"You just don't know how the emotions of buyers are going to run about the price of gas, especially when there's so much about it in the media," he said.

Sales of most large SUVs fell in August. The Suburban was down 25 percent, the Expedition 40 percent and the Toyota 4Runner 16 percent.

GM market analyst Paul Ballew said gas prices were not the main reason for the decline in SUV sales.

Fuller, a student at Texas Christian University, said his Vespa is ideal for the short drive to classes and makes parking on campus easier, too. He and his wife, a teacher, plan to leave their pickup under the carport most weekdays while they take turns using the scooter.

"I think we'll end up maybe getting another one," he said. "I think we're going to save a lot."

Craig McDonald of Dallas, who also bought a Vespa from University Scooters in August, said it lets

him escape the cost of fueling his LandRover SUV that gets just 15 miles per gallon.

"I drive it to and from work and then any errands that we have to run," McDonald said. "It's so nice not to have to fire up the SUV that just drinks the gasoline."

McDonald, who works about six miles from his home and sells digital photo equipment, said the scooter makes for an easy commute.

"Besides, they're a blast to drive," he said.

GM's sales also suffered in light of strong sales in June and July fueled by the employee discount, he said.

Ford sales analyst George Pippas took a stronger stance. "The traditional sport-utility market is declining," he said.

A restyled and re-engineered Ford Explorer debuts in September, but Pippas says that probably the best the company can hope for is 2006 sales being the same as this year.

Explorer sales are down 20 percent this year, and Pippas said, "the acceleration in the rate of decline has to be due to gas prices."

Ford is counting on sales of crossovers such as the Escape and Freestyle to capture buyers migrating from Explorer and Expedition.

But at Arlington Heights Ford, dealer John Guido Sr. ordered 100 Explorers and 36 Expeditions re-

cently to replenish inventory depleted by the employee discount.

"I'm not backing off at all," Guido said. He was down to five 2005 Explorers and two Expeditions and said gas prices "hurt us only a little, and not as much as you might expect."

"I think gas will come back down to about \$2.40 or \$2.50, and then it will be a nonissue."

Nissan dealer Puffer added: "I'm not going to give up my boat because gas is \$3 a gallon, and it's the same thing for people who like or need a big SUV."

"People who would buy one on a whim, that's the guy we'll lose. Three dollars a gallon will keep him from making a big SUV his next cool car. That market will lose some peripheral sales, but the core market will remain strong."

And they're off: The gre (driverless) race

BY JOHN MARKOFF
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

FLORENCE, Ariz. — Cresting a hill on a gravel road at a brisk 20 miles an hour, a driverless, computer-controlled Volkswagen Touareg plunges smartly into a swale. When its laser guidance system spots an overhanging limb, it lurches violently left and right before abruptly swerving off the road.

With their robotic Touareg, known as Stanley, impaled in the brush, the two passengers — Sebastian Thrun and Michael Montemerlo, both Stanford computer scientists — pull off their crash helmets and scramble out to untangle the machine.

A quick survey reveals that the sport utility vehicle is covered with debris, but the bug-eyed laser, radar and optical vision system on top of the vehicle is undamaged. So Stanley and its passengers continue on their way, over 50 miles of dirt road through a cactus-covered landscape, in the final weeks of preparation for the second round of the Pentagon's great race.

It has been almost 18 months since the Pentagon's research arm, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, first attracted a motley array of autonomous vehicles with a prize of \$1 million for the first to complete a 142-mile desert course from Barstow to Las Vegas. The most successful robot, developed by a Carnegie Mellon University team, managed all of seven miles.

With the next running scheduled for Oct. 8 — and this time a \$2 million purse for the winner among 43 entries — it is clear that many of the participants have made vast progress. For some researchers, it is an indication of a significant transformation in what has been largely a science fiction fantasy.

"Computers are starting to sprout legs and move around in the environment," said Andy Rubin, a Silicon Valley technologist and a financial backer of this year's Stanford Racing Team, which produced Stanley. Rubin, who tinkers with robots himself, was the co-founder of Danger Inc., which created the Sidekick hand-held.

The Pentagon agency, known as Darpa, struck upon the idea of a race — calling it the Grand Challenge — as a way to stimulate innovations useful in battlefield applications like unmanned logistics vehicles.

For the two Stanford scientists, however, the Grand Challenge is about something larger. "The military are interested in more potent weapons, and by itself that's a bad answer," said Thrun, a roboticist and director of the Stanford Artificial Intelligence Laboratory. His broader goal is to advance robotics as a science and explore applications ranging from aids for the elderly to basic advances in intelligent computerized systems.

Several years ago, when Thrun was a professor at Carnegie Mellon and Montemerlo was a graduate student, they helped develop a prototype of a mobile robotic companion for the home that used natural-language voice commands and was able to provide useful information taken from the Internet like weather and television schedules.

There are a myriad of other

possible applications for their software, which can reason about the immediate environment; distinguish sky from ground, road and trees; and make lightning-quick decisions.

Already in the automotive industry, intelligent cruise control has become more adept at automatically maintaining the spacing between cars, and intelligent lane-change and collision-avoidance software is close to being a reality. Robots are routinely used in manufacturing, and in Japan a 3-foot-tall "house sitter" robot that can recognize 10,000 words and 10 different faces will go on sale in September, offered by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries.

In the Darpa contest, though, the proving ground is not the home but the desert. And several of the contestants, who range from garage hack-

— strewn with rocks, turns, puddles and boulders, foot-high cactuses — with only a few students, "which in Thrun's vernacular is when he's something unpleasant, ing the road.

When their Touareg abruptly in a road, the team was quite con-

The previous year had persuaded Montemerlo to move an irritating obstacle, which forced the brake rapidly after the module at speed, as if it were fished out of the water, plunged into the desert. Thrun, sitting in the driver's seat, had a "Stop" button, which he pressed when the car was too close.

Back inside the Touareg, after a long drive, Montemerlo, seated in the driver's seat, had a "Stop" button, which he pressed when the car was too close. Back inside the Touareg, after a long drive, Montemerlo, seated in the driver's seat, had a "Stop" button, which he pressed when the car was too close.

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On guard against unscrupulous service people

Q: When is it necessary (if at all) to change the following parts: oxygen sensor, gas filter, spark plug wires, distributor cap, distributor and brake fluid? These are not covered in my car manual and I do not want to seem an easy target by some unscrupulous service people.

A: Some of the parts you mentioned are intended to last the life of the vehicle, some no longer exist, and brake fluid is more important than most people think. Let's consider your list:

■ **Oxygen sensor.** Your car might have between one and four oxygen sensors, which are critical for optimum fuel economy and emissions reduction. O2 sensors are usually considered a lifetime component, but can degrade or fail due to contamination or simply old age.

Vehicles built since 1996 check their sensor(s) regularly and hold very tight standards for acceptability. Should a sensor fail its on-board diagnostic test, your check engine or service engine soon light will illuminate.

(The light also can come on due to many other reasons.)

On older vehicles, a skilled technician can check sensor performance, perhaps every 60,000 miles, for proper voltage range and rise/fall rate.

■ **Fuel filter.** Fuel filters are often considered a lifetime component, although I'm inclined to renew them at 60,000 to 90,000 miles to protect the electric fuel pump from possible stress. A dirty, restricted filter can take a toll on the fuel pump prior to exhibiting any symptoms, such as loss of power under acceleration or high speed.

■ **Spark plug wires.** Many newer cars no longer have them. If you do, they can last the life of the vehicle if protected from oil saturation, chafing or other damage to the insulation. Faulty wires can cause engine misfire (sputtering during take-off or continuous shuddering), which can wreck havoc on the catalytic converter, fuel economy and emissions.

■ **Distributor cap and rotor.** If used, they might last the life of the vehicle, and have similar fault symptoms as the plug wires. A visual inspection every 60,000 to 90,000 miles is recommended. Distributors, if used, normally last just about forever, although a few vehicles have non-serviceable sensors inside, and might require unit replacement, should the sensor fail.

■ **Brake fluid.** That leaves us with

brake fluid, and if I might add it, engine coolant. Replacement of these fluids is notoriously under-recommended in most maintenance manuals, if mentioned at all.

Brake fluid absorbs moisture, which can cause corrosion of expensive ABS (anti-lock braking system) components, and degrade high-demand braking performance. Renewing the fluid every 36,000 to 48,000 miles is a very good idea.

Engine coolant also should be renewed every 36,000 to 48,000 miles to protect against engine and heater core corrosion and electrolysis. Due to the mix of metals used in the cooling system of many vehicles, old coolant can become nasty stuff, causing surprisingly expensive problems. Vehicles using long-life (orange) coolant can run perhaps twice as far, if the system is free of leakage, and potential oxidation.

When searching for a trustworthy repair shop, look for one that is AAA-approved, an ASE and/or BBB member, and employs ASE-certified technicians. The recommendation of a friend is often the best bet.

Help with leaking truck

Q: I'm hoping you can help with some advice on water leakage. My '84 Chevrolet pickup leaks water's clear in color so I know it's not coolant or from the air conditioner — into the cab whenever it rains or I wash it. A small quantity ends up on the driver's side floor and an even larger amount on the passenger side.

Could it be from the windshield seal, or somewhere else? How bad is this going to hurt to fix?

A You have my empathy. The smell of wet carpet is a lousy way to start your morning commute, and the day to follow. Let's perform a couple of inspections and then pick the best course of action. Start by checking the exterior of the windshield rubber seal for shrinkage, cracking or other visible faults.

Next, with the hood open, carefully inspect the cowl — the metal housing just below the base of the windshield — for rust perforations or dried out/receded sealer on its many seams and junctions. At this time you may want to clean them resal any questionable areas with a bead of household exterior latex sealer, such as Alex.

After allowing sufficient cure time for the sealer, recruit a helper and try to determine the general area of the likely remaining leak(s). While

lying inverted, head by the pedals (and then again on the passenger side), have your helper apply water from the hose in a gentle, flooding manner back and forth across the cowl area, but not higher. Can you see evidence

of the water entering? Perhaps from above the pedals, trickling down the front edge of the door jamb, or dripping from the plastic trim panel behind the parking brake pedal? On the passenger side, also check for dripping from the base of the heater box.

If leakage is noted, the fault might lie in the more difficult-to-access cowl seams in the kick panel area (just ahead of the doors) or in the area beneath the ventilation intake screen. If not, instruct your helper to next flood the windshield seal, starting at its lower edge, progressing slowly higher.

Try to note the time of leakage as soon as possible, and call to your helper to concentrate on that particular area. Removal of the windshield pillar trim and/or dashboard pad will allow a better view of the exact entrance point of the water.

My hunch is you'll find leakage from the cowl in the kick panel area. Chevy trucks of this vintage were built to accommodate kick panel vents, when not equipped with A/C. This area — behind the triangular plastic trim panel — is vulnerable to leakage due to lousy spot welds and ill-fitting seams.

Removing the trim panels will allow a more detailed inspection during water testing, and provides access for seam resealing. Small rusted areas may be patched with cut-to-shape plastic inserts, bonded by sealer.

If you're up for a little disassembly and diligent sealer application, repairing the cowl seams is within the ability of a home mechanic. The windshield seal or advanced rust issues I would save for a professional.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose. Write to him in care of Drive, Mercury News, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, Calif. 95190; or e-mail to underthehood@juno.com. He cannot make personal replies.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER.

Save

FROM PAGE D6

In other words, while the stock Camaro would reach 110-plus mph with perhaps 175 horsepower, 600-plus full-race horsepower would only propel the same basic body shape to about 175 mph — at roughly 4 miles per gallon.

So the message is clear. Slow down to save fuel. Most modern vehicles deliver their best fuel economy in the 50-to-60-mph range.

And we're talking 3 to 5 miles per gallon better mileage than the same vehicle delivers at 75-plus mph. Think about that next time you're in the left lane on 35W barreling along at 75 to 80 mph "with the flow of traffic." How fast do you really need to get to the store?

At what speed does your vehicle deliver its absolutely best mileage? Zero miles per hour, of course. If you aren't driving it, it's not burning any fuel; the message is clear. Drive less.

Again, the message is clear. Drive less. Most of us in the metro area seem to drive 15,000 to 20,000 miles per year. Can you survive your

job, your lifestyle and your commitments and still drive less?

Take a close look at your weekly driving pattern. How many trips to the store? The mall? The ballpark? The restaurant? Instead of heading to the mall today, then the grocery store tomorrow, could you combine both of these into one trip? If you know you've got a doctor's appointment Wednesday, why not do

your shopping after your appointment and save a trip? Instead of driving Junior to practice Tuesday and Thursday, check with his friends to see who else is going, then make a call or two to the other parents and set up a simple car pool. Speaking of car pools, do any of your friends or neighbors work near your office or store?

If you could reduce your annual mileage by just 15 percent, you'd reduce your annual fuel costs by that same 15 percent. Instead of paying roughly \$2,750 year for gas — 20,000 miles at 20 mpg on \$2.75-per-gallon fuel — you'd

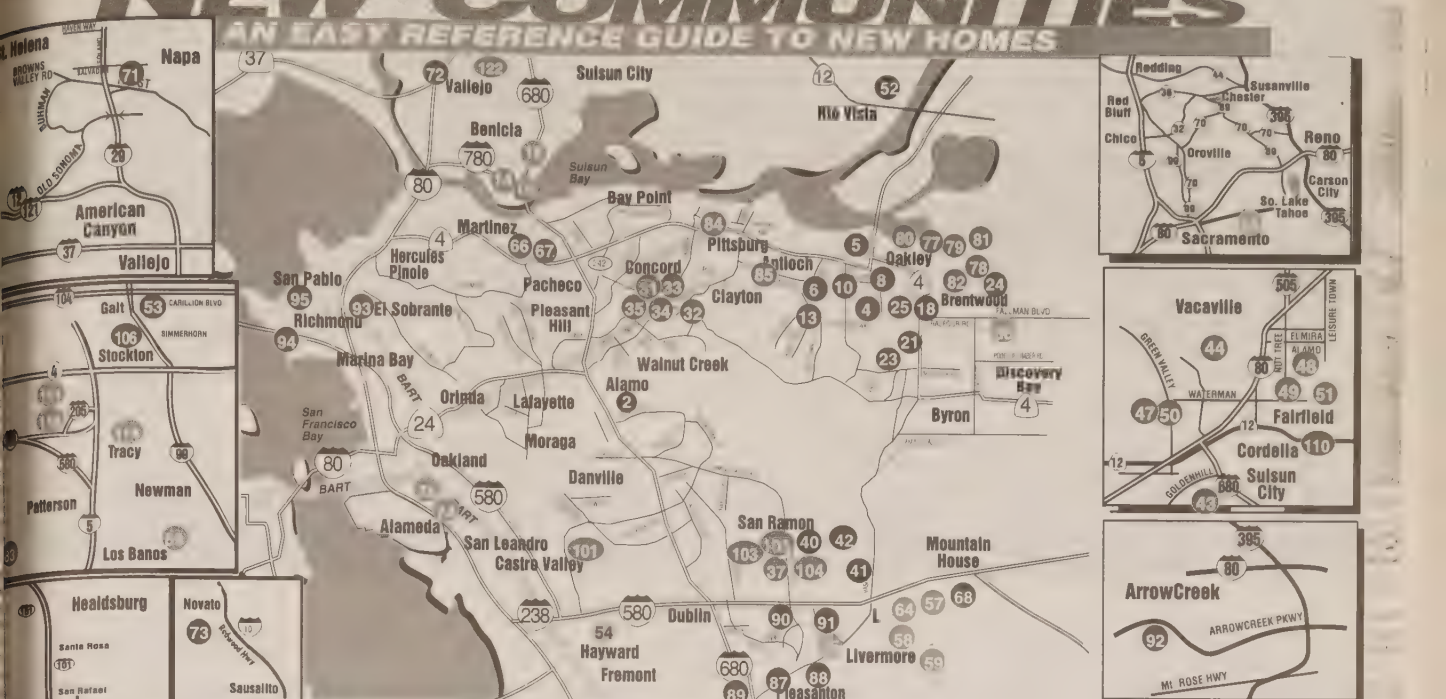
spend roughly \$2,340 — meaning an annual savings of roughly \$410, or \$33 a week. Drive even less? Save even more.

No one is talking about fuel prices. But remember, gas still is a bargain. It still costs less than bottled water, and its price is adjusted for inflation. Prices have risen less than most major commodities over the

past few years. And you can save even more by driving less. So the message is clear. Drive less.

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Shopping Plus

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Tote cuisine: beyond the bologna sandwich

BY MARIA GALLAGHER

The leaves haven't begun to change, but I've already seen one sure sign that autumn is almost at our doorstep.

At my neighborhood supermarket, an enormous display bin — filled last month with beach balls — is now piled high with

food so readily available you might think that grown-ups have stopped carrying lunches to work.

But the January 2001 issue of *American Demographics* cited a Datamonitor survey indicating that 20 percent of office workers bring a lunch from home every day and that 45 percent bring a home-packed lunch at least once a week.

There's nothing inherently wrong with eating at home, but some people, like designer Marguerite Rodriguez, don't want to leave their homes without a backup plan.

Rodriguez, 40, is a fashion designer who works in Manhattan. She's a busy woman, and she's not alone in her profession. In fact, she's one of the few designers who still work out of their homes.

But Rodriguez is not alone in her profession. In fact, she's one of the few designers who still work out of their homes. She's a busy woman, and she's not alone in her profession.

She's a busy woman, and she's not alone in her profession. She's a busy woman, and she's not alone in her profession. She's a busy woman, and she's not alone in her profession.

What's in her lunch bag? Fresh fruit, pretzels for snacking, and perhaps a sandwich of reduced-fat turkey on light bread, or homemade tuna salad with mayo, toast, or cottage cheese with fruit or yogurt with fruit. She drinks spring water from a water cooler, jazzing it up with lemon and artificial sweetener.

Donna Scott, another Wright-Wadsworth member who works in the same department as Rodriguez, typically brings four pieces of fresh fruit to work each day, along with small portions of dinner leftovers, such as meat, local, scaphe, collard greens, string beans, or mushroom and cheese.

At my desk right now, I have a pizza, a salad, and a sandwich. I have a pizza, a salad, and a sandwich. I have a pizza, a salad, and a sandwich.

And, like Rodriguez, she's not alone in her profession.

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BROWN BAG LUNCHES

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Carry your food to a break room

or company cafeteria, or outdoors

if a park or benches are nearby

Go beyond white, wheat

and meat.

Go beyond white, wheat

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Friday, August 24, 2001

Section D

Classic Classics: MGB still going strong [D3]

DAVE VAN SICKLE

Most gas-saving gadgets fall short of touted claims

When gasoline prices began to rise to 70¢ a gallon, concerns about fuel economy

Not so coincidentally, August's gas prices in the Bay Area were the highest since 1997, according to the California Air Resources Board.

For years, the Berkeley Voice's readers have been looking for ways to save money on gas.

Commissions on the sale of new cars to be away of gas-saving products, automotive devices or oil and gas additives. According to the FTC, most fuel-saving gadgets and devices simply don't work, and over the few products that have been found to work, produce only a small savings.

Worse yet, several devices actually increase exhaust emissions, and older fuel-injection systems may not be able to handle the extra fuel.

After evaluating over 100 gadgets, gas-saving devices, the EPA has found only a few that actually improve fuel economy and none that do so significantly.

The Automobile Aftermarket Association says that the only way to improve fuel economy is to use the right kind of oil.

The use of gas-saving products is a waste of money. The use of gas-saving products is a waste of money. The use of gas-saving products is a waste of money.

It's a waste of money. The use of gas-saving products is a waste of money. The use of gas-saving products is a waste of money.



ACURA RSX TYPE-S is a fun little sports car to drive and much roomier and less noisy than expected. The ride is a bit bouncy but steering is easy.

Acura RSX makes shifting much more enjoyable

TOM KEANE

Editor

Auto Plus

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Who is

favorite team?

SPORTS

1998 JAN 22 2003

1. V

Elmer's Homets drill nine 3-pointers to outlast El Cerreto in an ACCAL matchup

By Scott Strain

Live by the "H" and die by the "3" — and Alameda lived.

The Hornets (17-5, 2-0 in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League) hit nine 3-point shots, including seven by sophomore Russell "Boo" Alandri, and won a 75-60 victory at El Cerrito 70-71 Gardens, site of the Hornets' Nest in Alameda.

The loss knocked the Gauchos (17-5, 8-2) one-and-a-half games behind the Hornets in the A.C.C.A. Alameda has three league games left. El Cerrito won't. The Gauchos still have to play Berkeley.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL

excursing 81-56 loss to Berkeley on Tuesday and came out a bit ragged against El Cerrito, which it had defeated 37-54 in El Cerrito on Jan. 1. "I had a headache on the other side," had mentioned Encinal 60-53 on Tuesday, the first quarter of the late 15th-century first quarter.

"Personally I wanted it more because we lost to Berkeley," Encinal said. "I thought we were just going as Berkeley, not looking that good as Berkeley was tonight."

With Calander firing six points in the first half, the Hornets led 17-14 at the half. Also, Calander's 10 points fired eight of his 12 points in the first half, including two 3-pointers.

The game swung dramatically away from El Cerrito in the final moments of the third quarter.

ter, Nicole Catania stole the ball from Analiese McGrew underneath the Alameda basket and scored for 41-37. The Gauchos turned the ball over immediately after that and Calandri hit another 3-pointer for 44-37. 13 Cerrito called timeout with 7:05 left in the second and already had turned the ball over. The visitors ... into it. Alameda ... lead to 60-49 with ... left in the third quarter. The Gauchos, their inside game struggling, were forced to go to the perimeter to get back into the game.

"I thought it was our moral defense," Calandri said about the effort against El Cerrito. "If (the defense) wasn't there against defense, I thought we held back. It was a moral duty; we didn't do it."

[illegible]

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ACCAL NOTEBOOK

Oilers set for NCS opener

By Orlando Molina
Times Staff Writer

After a heart-pounding week to end the Alameda County Costa Athletic League boys soccer season, league champion Richmond High School is gearing up to face its first opponent tomorrow in the second round of North Coast Division 1A play.

At the start of the week the
Chorus, the No. 1 vocal group,
sang a selection of songs.

JOURNAL
NEST



EL CERRITO HIGH S A game 11. 1944. 1945. 1946. 1947. 1948. 1949. 1950. 1951. 1952. 1953. 1954. 1955. 1956. 1957. 1958. 1959. 1960. 1961. 1962. 1963. 1964. 1965. 1966. 1967. 1968. 1969. 1970. 1971. 1972. 1973. 1974. 1975. 1976. 1977. 1978. 1979. 1980. 1981. 1982. 1983. 1984. 1985. 1986. 1987. 1988. 1989. 1990. 1991. 1992. 1993. 1994. 1995. 1996. 1997. 1998. 1999. 2000. 2001. 2002. 2003. 2004. 2005. 2006. 2007. 2008. 2009. 2010. 2011. 2012. 2013. 2014. 2015. 2016. 2017. 2018. 2019. 2020. 2021. 2022. 2023. 2024. 2025. 2026. 2027. 2028. 2029. 2030. 2031. 2032. 2033. 2034. 2035. 2036. 2037. 2038. 2039. 2040. 2041. 2042. 2043. 2044. 2045. 2046. 2047. 2048. 2049. 2050. 2051. 2052. 2053. 2054. 2055. 2056. 2057. 2058. 2059. 2060. 2061. 2062. 2063. 2064. 2065. 2066. 2067. 2068. 2069. 2070. 2071. 2072. 2073. 2074. 2075. 2076. 2077. 2078. 2079. 2080. 2081. 2082. 2083. 2084. 2085. 2086. 2087. 2088. 2089. 2090. 2091. 2092. 2093. 2094. 2095. 2096. 2097. 2098. 2099. 2100. 2101. 2102. 2103. 2104. 2105. 2106. 2107. 2108. 2109. 2110. 2111. 2112. 2113. 2114. 2115. 2116. 2117. 2118. 2119. 2120. 2121. 2122. 2123. 2124. 2125. 2126. 2127. 2128. 2129. 2130. 2131. 2132. 2133. 2134. 2135. 2136. 2137. 2138. 2139. 2140. 2141. 2142. 2143. 2144. 2145. 2146. 2147. 2148. 2149. 2150. 2151. 2152. 2153. 2154. 2155. 2156. 2157. 2158. 2159. 2160. 2161. 2162. 2163. 2164. 2165. 2166. 2167. 2168. 2169. 2170. 2171. 2172. 2173. 2174. 2175. 2176. 2177. 2178. 2179. 2180. 2181. 2182. 2183. 2184. 2185. 2186. 2187. 2188. 2189. 2190. 2191. 2192. 2193. 2194. 2195. 2196. 2197. 2198. 2199. 2200. 2201. 2202. 2203. 2204. 2205. 2206. 2207. 2208. 2209. 2210. 2211. 2212. 2213. 2214. 2215. 2216. 2217. 2218. 2219. 2220. 2221. 2222. 2223. 2224. 2225. 2226. 2227. 2228. 2229. 2230. 2231. 2232. 2233. 2234. 2235. 2236. 2237. 2238. 2239. 2240. 2241. 2242. 2243. 2244. 2245. 2246. 2247. 2248. 2249. 2250. 2251. 2252. 2253. 2254. 2255. 2256. 2257. 2258. 2259. 2260. 2261. 2262. 2263. 2264. 2265. 2266. 2267. 2268. 2269. 2270. 2271. 2272. 2273. 2274. 2275. 2276. 2277. 2278. 2279. 2280. 2281. 2282. 2283. 2284. 2285. 2286. 2287. 2288. 2289. 2290. 2291. 2292. 2293. 2294. 2295. 2296. 2297. 2298. 2299. 2300. 2301. 2302. 2303. 2304. 2305. 2306. 2307. 2308. 2309. 2310. 2311. 2312. 2313. 2314. 2315. 2316. 2317. 2318. 2319. 2320. 2321. 2322. 2323. 2324. 2325. 2326. 2327. 2328. 2329. 2330. 2331. 2332. 2333. 2334. 2335. 2336. 2337. 2338. 2339. 2340. 2341. 2342. 2343. 2344. 2345. 2346. 2347. 2348. 2349. 2350. 2351. 2352. 2353. 2354. 2355. 2356. 2357. 2358. 2359. 2360. 2361. 2362. 2363. 2364. 2365. 2366. 2367. 2368. 2369. 2370. 2371. 2372. 2373. 2374. 2375. 2376. 2377. 2378. 2379. 2380. 2381. 2382. 2383. 2384. 2385. 2386. 2387. 2388. 2389. 2390. 2391. 2392. 2393. 2394. 2395. 2396. 2397. 2398. 2399. 2400. 2401. 2402. 2403. 2404. 2405. 2406. 2407. 2408. 2409. 2410. 2411. 2412. 2413. 2414. 2415. 2416. 2417. 2418. 2419. 2420. 2421. 2422. 2423. 2424. 2425. 2426. 2427. 2428. 2429. 2430. 2431. 2432. 2433. 2434. 2435. 2436. 2437. 2438. 2439. 2440. 2441. 2442. 2443. 2444. 2445. 2446. 2447. 2448. 2449. 2450. 2451. 2452. 2453. 2454. 2455. 2456. 2457. 2458. 2459. 2460. 2461. 2462. 2463. 2464. 2465. 2466. 2467. 2468. 2469. 2470. 2471. 2472. 2473. 2474. 2475. 2476. 2477. 2478. 2479. 2480. 2481. 2482. 2483. 2484. 2485. 2486. 2487. 2488. 2489. 2490. 2491. 2492. 2493. 2494. 2495. 2496. 2497. 2498. 2499. 2500. 2501. 2502. 2503. 2504. 2505. 2506. 2507. 2508. 2509. 2510. 2511. 2512. 2513. 2514. 2515. 2516. 2517. 2518. 2519. 2520. 2521. 2522. 2523. 2524. 2525. 2526. 2527. 2528. 2529. 2530. 2531. 2532. 2533. 2534. 2535. 2536. 2537. 2538. 2539. 2540. 2541. 2542. 2543. 2544. 2545. 2546. 2547. 2548. 2549. 2550. 2551. 2552. 2553. 2554. 2555. 2556. 2557. 2558. 2559. 2560. 2561. 2562. 2563. 2564. 2565. 2566. 2567. 2568. 2569. 2570. 2571. 2572. 2573. 2574. 2575. 2576. 2577. 2578. 2579. 2580. 2581. 2582. 2583. 2584. 2585. 2586. 2587. 2588. 2589. 2590. 2591. 2592. 2593. 2594. 2595. 2596. 2597. 2598. 2599. 2600. 2601. 2602. 2603. 2604. 2605. 2606. 2607. 2608. 2609. 2610. 2611. 2612. 2613. 2614. 2615. 2616. 2617. 2618. 2619. 2620. 2621. 2622. 2623. 2

HSAL NOTEBOOK

Canceled games hurt Salesian

By Scott Strain

The Salem High School boys soccer team had one Ray Storer Annett's League matches scheduled to be a matchless and they may have paid the price (a \$100 fine) for a matchless match.

Salem finished the league season with a 4-4 record (1st in the HSM). Two victories in the

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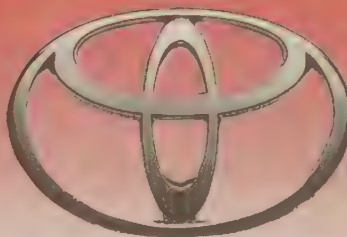
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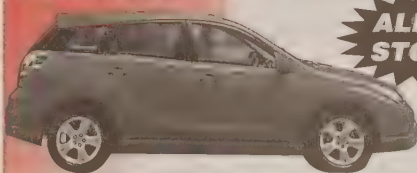
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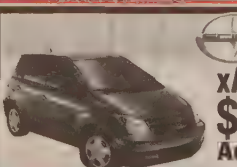
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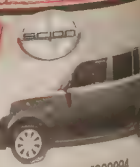


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Shopping Plus

Friday, September 16, 2005

Look inside for local advertising circulars every Friday

...a symbol of Western innovation, the American olive struggles to get respect

BY BILL DALEY
CHICAGO TRIBUNE STAFF REPORTER
ORANGE, Calif. — Heading through the flat monotony of the Sacramento Valley, you would focus upward to the 14,000-foot crest of Mt. Lassen. The distance, not on the farm fields and sleepy towns, is the true giant in this valley. It is not the ancient volcano, but a food product just a little more than a marble: the California olive.

Connoisseurs may sniff at them, but millions upon millions of black olives processed here yearly by Bell-Carter Foods Inc., packed under its familiar Linderoth Olive Co. label and a variety of brands, represent the economic backbone for the 6,886 residents of the self-proclaimed "Olive City" located 160 miles north of San Francisco.

Most know these olives. We all know these olives. They're the ones that come in a cut-glass bowl at Thanksgiving table, or sliced on top of pizza at the neighborhood pizzeria, or chopped into chicken salad, sandwiches or the stuffing for turkey legs.

California olives get no reputation in America's ever-more sophisticated palate, said Dr. Judith M. Carter, a retired physician who has lived in the Olive in California: "People travel abroad and taste flavors of all types," said Taylor. "People look to the sky and the earth and taste."

California's other major olive producer, the Musco Family Olive Co. of Tracy, Calif., markets a similar line of specialty olives called "Mediterranean Pearls" in an echo of its well-known California olive brand, "Black Pearls."

Smaller producers also are branching out. Maurice and Cindy Penna, a husband-and-wife olive growing team in Orland, Calif., are looking to enhance traditional flavors while modernizing processing methods. Their M&CP Farms not only sells fresh raw olives but also offers an array of products through its Penna Gourmet Olives brand, including garlic, cheese- and almond-stuffed olives, and such varieties as kalamata and Sicilian.

California black olives outsell green Spanish-style olives at a ratio of 2-1 in the United States, said Jud Carter, president of Bell-Carter Foods. He said 140,000 tons of black olives and 55,000 tons of green olives are sold annually.

Carter, who said the olives his company makes today taste much like the olives his grandfather first produced back in the 1930s, is unwilling to let the California olive take second place to any other olive product.

at the recent Indy International Wine Competition in Indianapolis, the nation's third largest wine competition, gobbled down hundreds of ripened olives donated by C.C. Graber Co. of Ontario, Calif.

California olives need to be appreciated for what they are, insisted Marlena Spieler, the California-born author and food writer whose works include "Olives: Cooking with the Olive and Its Oil."

"They deserve a break, p.r.-wise," said Spieler, now based in England. "They are what they are. I think there is a place for them in our olive-munching lives."

Like Taylor, Spieler said that California olives have to compete against the "cachet" of their European counterparts, which often have more pronounced flavors, glam packaging and the "exoticism of the foreign."

And you can't say the California olive people haven't tried to buy into that mystique. The California Olive Committee, a Fresno-based trade group, released in 2000 a 14-page booklet, "Recipes from Around the Mediterranean," that starred California olive oil. (The free booklet and additional recipes are available online at www.calolive.org.)

The Bell-Carter firm, whose corporate offices are in the Bay Area city of Lafayette, offers more than the familiar pimiento-stuffed Spanish green olives from Spain. The company markets specialty olives under its Lindsay label, including winey kalamata and crisp Sicilian, as well as olives stuffed with "exotic" ingredients such as anchovy, jalapeno and garlic.

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"Our olives are so different from the imports," he said. "What the mild ripe olive affords is much more flexibility and diversification when you serve it."

But the "ripe" label is something of a misnomer, according to Taylor. California olives are, in fact, harvested at a stage between unripe and ripe called "physiological ripeness," she said.

"It's still kind of greenish but there's a little biochemical change," Taylor said, noting that fully ripe olives are too perishable for today's large-scale harvesting.

Millions of Americans buy and eat California olives every year. But the segments that really support the industry are the major pizza chains and food service, Taylor said.

"How many times do you buy pizza with olives on them?" she asked with a chuckle.

Indeed, the hunger for olives by these major companies is a factor in the gradual consolidation of the olive business in California. In 1977, there were 13 canners of black ripe olives. Now there are three, two of which, Bell-Carter and Musco, are considered the undisputed industry leaders. The third is the California Olive Growers in Madera.

"From a very competitive industry we're now down to two major companies," Taylor said. "If you have a relatively small output, you're not going to be able to satisfy the giant (food) companies so these contracts go to the major (olive) companies."

By international standards, California's industry isn't big enough to be "a pimple on an elephant's ear," according to Adin Hester, president of the Olive Growers Council of California.

Today, about 33,000 acres are devoted to table olives in California, down from the 35,000 acres of five years ago, according to Christi Darling, interim manager of the California Olive Committee.

The olive processors "are not paying enough for the growers to support their orchards," she said.

Olive orchards are being transformed into subdivisions, said Georgeanne Brennan, a food journalist and author of "Olives, Anchovies and Capers," who divides her time between northern California and southern France. The push is particularly intense in Tulare County, she said. This region of the central San Joaquin Valley accounts for 53 percent of olive acreage.

Rising labor costs are another issue raising the growers' breakeven bar to \$700 a ton, Brennan said, adding that growers only are grossing about \$630 a ton now.

"Whatever we do in California is three times more expensive than what they do in Spain and eight times what they do in North Africa and Turkey," Taylor said.

California's table-olive industry has long been battered by competition from Spain and Morocco so intense that much of the green unripe "Spanish" olive market was conceded to overseas growers decades ago.

Darling said olive growers overseas are subsidized by their government so they can sell their product more cheaply, while American growers are on their own. American companies are turning to the less expensive imports, she said.

California Olive Committee statistics tell the story. While the consumption of domestic "canned ripe" olives has fluctuated up and down from a low of 165 million pounds in the 1995-96 season to a high of 187 million pounds in the 1998-99 season, the consumption rate has remained relatively steady the last few years, weighing in at 172 million pounds in the 2003-04 season. The consumption of imported canned ripe olives is far less but consumption has shot up steadily, to 81 million pounds in the 2003-2004 season from 36 million in 1995-96.

Darling said imported canned ripe olives go mainly to food service and institutional uses because the quality of the imports are not as good as the California olives, at least not yet. The importers are catching up, she said.

With higher labor costs, dwindling acreage, higher prices and lack of governmental support, Darling wonders about the future.

"Something needs to break and I'm not sure where it will break," she said.

Hester is equally gloomy. "We're going downhill fast because of Spain and Morocco," he said.

Yet Brennan believes the table olive industry may be ripe for a turn around. That's what happened with California figs, she said. Fig growers found a new



JOHN DZIEKAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

OLIVE- AND BASIL-INFUSED butters flavor a filet of poached salmon.

market for their wares in granola and other food products.

"Olive growers are waking up to the problem," she said.

Carter also thinks there is still room for expansion.

"There really is a lot of agricultural land available to expand the business in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys," he said.

The California olive industry also has memories going for it. The ripe olive may be the quiet ingredient at today's multilingual dinner party but it is at the table all the same because, well, it's family.

Spier's most vivid California olive memory is one perhaps most shared by others — a memory that testifies to how thoroughly black ripe olives have woven themselves into the culture.

"When I was a child, I spent every holiday family gathering with my fingers tipped with a black olive," she recalled. "Then I would wiggle them and make them into little marching soldiers, then eat their little heads off."

Once upon a time, when California olives were chic

It's hard to believe that at one point in American history the California black olive was a chic, edible status symbol. Olive trees had been brought to California in the 18th Century by Spanish missionaries, mostly for oil, said Judith M. Taylor, author of "The Olive in California: History of an Immigrant Tree." She said the table-olive business was strictly a cottage industry in 19th century California.

A scrappy widow named Freda Ehmann changed all that.

Ehmann owned an olive orchard in Oroville, Calif., in the 1890s. Faced with little production and falling olive oil prices, she realized she needed another outlet for her olive crop. Experimenting on her back porch with 280 gallons of olives, she hit upon a curing process that won raves.

No dummy, Ehmann took to the road with her product, signing contracts in markets across the country. Suddenly olives were a national industry.

"A writer described the arrival of (Ehmann's) olives in Indiana. They had a lot of social cachet," Taylor said. "They were the newest thing out of the West."

The demand for table olives grew. In 1912, two brothers, Arthur and Henry Bell, purchased an olive orchard in Reedley, Calif. In 1930, they moved into canning, distributing and marketing their Bell brand, which was the forerunner to today's Bell-Carter Foods Inc. Arthur Bell moved to Berkeley, Calif., to run the packing plant while Henry Bell tended the olive groves.

Like Freda Ehmann, Arthur Bell was a born salesman.

Jud Carter, Arthur Bell's grandson, recalls hearing stories of his grandparents taking the ferry over to San Francisco to drum up business. His grandmother would sit at the lunch counter and order a "chopped olive" sandwich.

"The waitress would look at her kind of funny," he said. "And guess who came in the next day with a can of chopped olives."

But then Carter's grandfather would also tell restaurateurs that chopped olives were the "islands" in Thousand Island salad dressing. Clearly, Arthur Bell had vision — and good olive taste.

Marlena Spieler, a California-born and England-based food writer, cer-

tainly loves the chopped-olive sandwiches she first sampled as a girl.

"I keep meaning to write a column on them because there are many different types of olive sandwich," she said. "Mine is olive, egg, green onion and mayo on whole wheat with lettuce. Mmmm."

DEVILED EGGS WITH TUNA, BLACK OLIVES AND TOMATO

1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil plus more for garnish
2 tuna steaks, 5 ounces each, chopped
2 ribs celery, minced
1 green onion, minced
1 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon curry powder
Freshly ground pepper
8 hard-cooked eggs, halved, whites reserved, yolks mashed
1 cup regular or low-fat mayonnaise

1 tablespoon chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
8 black olives, pitted, halved
1 plum tomato, seeded, finely chopped

1. Heat the oil in a medium saucepan over medium heat; add the tuna, celery, green onion, 1/2 teaspoon of the salt, curry powder and pepper to taste. Cook, stirring, until just cooked through, about 4 minutes. Set aside to cool, about 5 minutes; drain. Transfer to a large bowl. Add mashed yolks, mayonnaise, parsley, remaining 1/2 teaspoon of the salt and pepper to taste, stirring until you reach desired consistency.

2. Fill each reserved egg white half with a heaping teaspoonful of the tuna filling. Top each with an olive half; sprinkle with tomato pieces. Drizzle with olive oil, if desired.

Preparation time: 40 minutes, cooking time: 4 minutes, makes 8 servings.

Food writer Debbie Moose published this recipe from Oleana restaurant in Cambridge, Mass., in her book, "Deviled Eggs."

CHEESE AND OLIVE-STUFFED PEARS

1/4 cup each: ricotta cheese, blue cheese
12 green olives, pitted, roughly chopped
4 dates, pitted, cut into thin strips
1 rib celery, finely sliced
1 tablespoon honey
1/4 teaspoon sweet paprika
4 ripe pears, halved, cored
2/3 cup apple juice

1. Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Place the ricotta in a medium bowl; crumble in the blue cheese. Stir in the olives, dates, celery, honey and paprika.

2. Place the pears in a baking dish large enough to fit them snugly in a single layer. Divide the filling equally among the pear centers. Pour the apple juice over and around the pears; cover with foil. Bake until pears are tender, about 20 minutes.

3. Remove the foil; heat the broiler. Broil the pears until lightly browned, about 3 minutes.

Preparation time: 25 minutes, cooking time: 23 minutes, makes 4 servings.

This recipe is adapted from "Olives, A Book of Recipes."

ROAST LAMB WITH WHITE WINE AND OLIVES

1 leg of lamb, about 5 pounds, trimmed
1 teaspoon salt
Freshly ground pepper
1 bottle (750 milliliters) white wine

12 cloves garlic
1 can (6 ounces) pitted black olives, drained, chopped

1. Heat oven to 400 degrees. Place leg of lamb in roasting pan; season with salt and pepper to taste. Make 12 small slits in the meat with the tip of a sharp knife. Press the garlic cloves into the slits. Pour wine over the meat.

2. Roast until an inserted meat thermometer reads 138-140 degrees for medium, about 1 1/2 hours, or to desired doneness. Transfer lamb to a platter. Tent with foil; let rest 10 minutes.

3. Heat pan juices to a boil over medium-high heat; cook until juices thicken and become slightly syrupy, about 10 minutes. Stir in olives; serve with roast.

Preparation time: 15 minutes, cooking time: 1 hour, 40 minutes, makes 12 servings.

This recipe is adapted from the 1952 classic, "Helen Brown's West Coast Cook Book," by Helen Evans Brown. The author writes that the garlic will thicken the wine sauce and "perfumes the lamb in a heavenly manner."

POACHED SALMON WITH FRESH BASIL AND OLIVE BUTTER

2 cups each: white wine, water
1 each, coarsely chopped: carrot, onion
1/2 rib celery, coarsely chopped
6-8 black peppercorns
2 teaspoons sea or kosher salt
1 bay leaf
1/2 teaspoon fennel seeds
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 cup basil leaves, minced
1 1/2 sticks (3/4 cup) unsalted butter, softened

1/2 cup black olives, drained
2 anchovy fillets, drained
1 small clove garlic, minced
1 large salmon fillet, about 2 pounds, cut into 6 equal pieces

1. Heat the wine, water, carrot, onion, celery, peppercorns, salt, bay leaf and fennel seeds to a boil in a large saucepan over medium-high heat; reduce to a simmer. Cover; cook 20 minutes. Strain the poaching liquid; discard solids. Return 1/4 cup of the liquid to the pan; add the lemon juice. Heat to a boil over medium-high heat. Cook until the liquid thickens to about 1 tablespoon of glaze, about 5 minutes. Transfer glaze to a small saucepan; set aside.

2. Mash basil leaves into a rough paste with a mortar and pestle; mix in 1 stick of the softened butter. Transfer basil butter to a small bowl; set aside. Clean the mortar with a paper towel. Mash the olives, anchovies and half of the garlic to a paste with the mortar and pestle. Mix in remaining 1/2 stick of the butter; set olive butter aside.

3. Heat the remaining poaching liquid to a simmer in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the salmon; cook, covered, until just done, about 4 minutes.

4. Meanwhile, whisk the reserved basil butter into the reserved glaze in the small saucepan over low heat until it is smooth, about 2 minutes. Drain the salmon fillets; place on paper towels. Spread the basil butter in the center of each of 6 plates. Place a salmon fillet on each plate; spread about 2 teaspoons of the olive butter over each fillet.

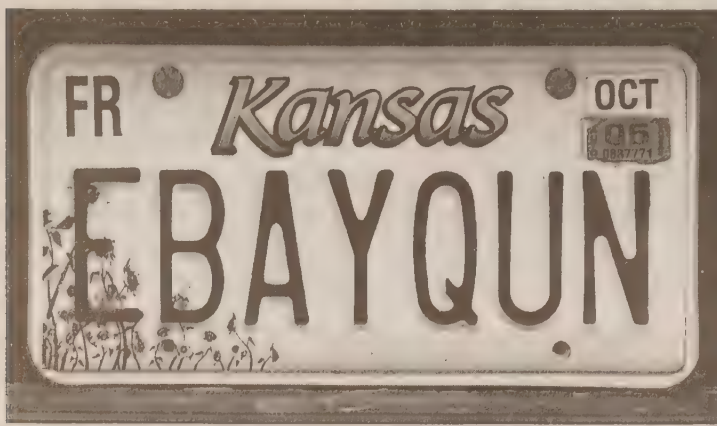
Preparation time: 50 minutes, cooking time: 31 minutes, makes 6 servings.

This recipe is adapted from the "Chez Panisse Menu Cookbook," by Alice Waters.



BOB FILA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

OLIVES GROW in Rutherford in the Napa Valley. The and Italian orchards include eight distinct tree types.



RAUL VASQUEZ/KANSAS CITY STAR

MAKE NO MISTAKE: Suzie Eads' license plate proclaims her the e-Bay queen, above. Eads inventories the items she is ready to ship to her customers, right. She has sold more than 17,000 items using e-Bay.



Selling tsunami sweeps the country: Learning and earning with eBay auction

BY JAMES EFUSSELL
KNIGHT RIDER NEWSPAPERS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — In case you hadn't noticed, eBay is enormous.

In the last month, thousands of people flocked to the Kansas City post office's free eBay day at Union Station. Others pay \$59 to attend eBay University when the traveling teaching arm of the popular online auction site comes to their town.

No wonder. eBay is celebrating its 10th birthday this month. Since then it has grown from a quirky novelty Web site where you could trade Beanie Babies and Pez dispensers into an economic colossus with more than 125 million users worldwide.

Its multibillion dollar market value is reportedly worth more than Bloomingdale's, Macy's, Sears and Toys "R" Us combined. An estimated 150,000 people have given up their jobs to form their own eBay businesses.

The selling tsunami has swept through towns across the United States — Kansas City, for one. The number of eBay sellers here, according to site officials, now tops 10,000. They are young, old, housewives and engineers. They sell jewelry, DVDs, TVs and trucks.

Recently we talked to a few of them.

Suzie Eads

Suzie Eads, who lives in Rantoul, Kan., southwest of Olathe, has a

personalized license plate: "EBAY QUN."

Eads, married with five children, has used her eBay income to help build a new house for the family. It's 3,500 square feet, not including the enormous basement where she runs her business.

"We call it the house that eBay built," she said.

Eads, an obsessive bargain hunter who frequents garage, yard and estate sales, loves the thrill of the hunt. She sells everything you could imagine under her eBay name "bigdaddysmoney." (When her husband gave her \$100 to start her business, he jokingly said, "Here's \$100 from big daddy!")

It started on a lark. She went to a sale at Waldenbooks and found three anniversary edition G.I. Joes regularly priced at \$80 each that were 75 percent off. She didn't need or necessarily want the action figures. She just couldn't resist the bargain.

She bought all three. After she got home, her husband shot her a funny look. Later she sold them on eBay for \$85 apiece.

"He didn't think it was so funny anymore," she said. "He said, 'I bet you can't do that again.'"

Think again, pal.

To date she figures she has sold about 17,000 items on eBay. Heck, she even posted an old beer can someone threw away and got \$380. Turns out it was collectible.

Who knew? But her favorite sale was of an old yearbook from Ottawa University in Ottawa, Kan.

Across the country, Phil Gentry, an accountant in Albuquerque obsessive about collecting photos and other pieces of his ancestors' lives, logged on to eBay, looking for anything from Ottawa. A local historian had told him about recovering some historical old artwork on eBay.

Gentry had never been on eBay. He logged on and typed "Ottawa, Kan."

He found Eads' yearbook and won it for \$10.

After receiving it, he thumbed through it and couldn't believe his luck. Amazingly the 1910 book, in pristine condition, had once belonged to his great aunt. In fact it was her senior yearbook — an exciting find for a fanatical genealogist who already has a database listing 20,000 extended family members going back to 1510 in Essex, England.

He jumped back online and quickly bought the next book Eads listed. To his delight it was his great

aunt's yearbook from her junior year.

Thrilled, he called Eads and thanked her. The two later met, and Eads has given Gentry some artwork she found in the box the yearbook came from.

"She's quite a lady," Gentry said.

Jacqui Grimes

Jacqui Grimes of Lee's Summit has been selling on eBay for two years. But even that short time has allowed her to establish a profitable eBay business that lets her stay home with her three children.

Grimes buys supplies on eBay, then makes hand-crafted jewelry and custom-designed medical ID bracelets that she then sells on eBay.

"I also do designs for children," she said. "People say they can't find a nice medical ID bracelet for, say, little girls to wear. So I do a princess style with pearls and crystals and like a tiara charm."

Her best seller is a "baby's first birthday bracelet," made from freshwater pearls, sterling silver and Swarovski crystal.

eBay is celebrating its 10th birthday.

Since then it has grown from a quirky Web site where you could trade Beanie Babies and Pez dispensers into an economic colossus with more than 125 million users worldwide.

Grimes figures she clears about \$1,000 a month from her business. In reality, though, it's even more than that because working at home means she doesn't have to pay for child care.

Not bad for part-time work. She has advice for people who would like to start an eBay business

"I think if you want more than just a hobby, you need to know what you can about the works. There are a lot of information out there."

See E-10

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 A fancy expression of gratitude
 for "pushing" out the baby is noth-
 ing new in other parts of the world,
 especially England and India, where
 new mothers have been scoring
 sparkly loot for hundreds of years.

Time to hold onto your wallets,
 Yanks.
 Helena Krodol, spokeswoman
 for Jewelry Information Center, a
 New York nonprofit trade associa-
 tion that educates consumers about
 fine jewelry and watches, has seen
 this trend swell in the last few years
 and sees no sign of it dying down,
 at least in this generation.
 "Today's parents — children of
 baby boomers — have grown up

See ACCESSORY, Page 5



RAUL VASQUEZ/KANSAS CITY STAR

e-Bay

FROM PAGE 2

It worked for her.
 "I wouldn't want to work for any-
 one else," she said. "I like working
 for myself."

KC Jerry

The president of the Kansas City
 eBay sellers group is an Indepen-
 dence man who prefers to go by
 his eBay handle, Kcjerry.

Jerry Swaffar is an experienced
 electrical engineer and computer
 programmer. He has worked for a
 variety of companies around the
 country, including General Electric
 here. But that, he said, was before
 he was laid off in 2000.

Unable to find another job in his
 field, he began going to auctions
 and formed his own business on
 eBay. While it's doing well, and he'd
 love to make it his full-time job, it
 doesn't yet pay all the bills.

For now he also works as an
 airport security guard. But he has
 had some terrific success selling
 everything from postcards to trucks.

About two months ago he
 bought a pallet of items for \$50 at
 an auction in the Cargo Largo un-
 derground storage caves on Mis-
 souri 291 in Independence.

The pallet contained a dizzying
 grab bag of items, including elec-
 tronics that were lost in shipment,
 abandoned, returned, exchanged

READY TO PLAY?: Self-
 proclaimed e-Bay queen Suzie
 Eads has board games stored in
 her basement set to ship to her
 customers.

or cosmetically damaged. The elec-
 tronics were great. He listed them
 immediately and made back many
 times his modest investment. He
 also bought two other items at the
 caves for \$47 — he wouldn't say
 exactly what for fear of tipping off
 any competition — that he sold on
 eBay for \$417 and \$428.

Ebay is probably the last fron-
 tier for the average person," he said.
 "This is the only business I know
 that you can start for under \$500."

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LEFT: JOAN LEONARD cuts a branch of Black-eyed Susan from her perennial garden. ABOVE: LEONARD RELAXES in her garden. She has completely replaced her lawn with

Going chemical free: You can get a lush, grassy yard without using chemicals

BY TOM AVRIL
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

PHILADELPHIA — Among the immaculate lawns in Cherry Hill, N.J., some still a vivid shade of emerald in late August, the Deppa family's yard is marred by traces of imperfection:

A scattering of brown patches and — gasp! — some weeds.

Sarah Deppa endures it willingly. She's gone chemical-free.

"I just didn't want any pesticides whatsoever," said Deppa, who hands out flyers urging her neighbors to use fewer chemicals. "My feeling is, this stuff is all over the neighborhood."

Crabby about crabgrass? Try a product by the earthy-sounding name of corn gluten. Got grubs? The antichemical crowd swears by a natural option — a bacterial powder called Milky Spore. Haunted by poor soil? Shovel in some kitchen compost.

Lawn care specialists at Rutgers and Pennsylvania State Universities say more homeowners are calling for information about this "organic" approach, concerned that synthetic pesticides and fertilizers may be bad for them and the environment.

Some studies suggest that caution is warranted. In the Journal of the American Medical Association last month, researchers reported that the rate of pesticide-related illness in school children, while low, increased from 1998 to 2002.

The ailments included nausea, headaches and wheezing, attributed to chemical use both on school property and on nearby farms. Other studies have linked certain pesticides with higher cancer rates in farm workers.

In the Philadelphia area, the U.S. Geological Survey has detected trace amounts of weedkillers in streams and wells throughout the Delaware River basin, albeit usually at low levels. Although individual chemicals generally are not measured at unsafe levels here, little is known about the combined effect of multiple substances.

Paul Hepperly, research director at the nonprofit Rodale Institute in Kutztown, Pa., which studies and promotes organic farming and gar-

dening, said there's no sense in taking a chance.

"You can't weigh the aesthetics of a dandelion against the abnormal development of your family members," he said.

Supporters say that if done correctly, an organic lawn can be just as green as the chemical kind. But as the Deppas discovered, it is likely to have some weeds.

"It doesn't have to be perfect," said Jane Nogaki, pesticide program coordinator for the nonprofit New Jersey Environmental Federation.

NaturalLawn of America, the company that maintains the Deppas' lawn, offers both a chemical-free service and a reduced-chemical option. With the latter, workers use limited amounts of pesticides to spot-treat weeds as needed, company officials said.

Lawn Doctor of Bux-Mont in Warminster, Pa., also offers treatment with and without synthetic chemicals; the natural option costs about 15 percent more, said owner Greg Magda. But many organic products are comparable in cost to the synthetic variety, said Drew Carroll, a horticulturist at Feeney's, a Feasterville, Pa., store that sells lawn and garden supplies.

Organic products have earned some skeptics, and not just on the subject of effectiveness. In the case of fertilizers, for example, nitrogen is an ingredient both in synthetic

products and in the "natural" variety — manure.

When you use too much nitrogen, regardless of whether the product is synthetic or natural, it washes into streams and can contribute to excess algae growth. Then when algae decompose, they rob fish of their oxygen supply.

But Rodale's Hepperly said that when homeowners use organic compost, the need for fertilizer is reduced because compost does a better job of holding nutrients in the soil.

Among Butler's tips: Don't mow the grass too short, so it becomes firmly established and crowds out weeds. Leave clippings in place as a natural fertilizer. Water less frequently, but for longer periods.

Others favor corn gluten, a milling byproduct whose weed-fighting properties were discovered by accident and patented in the early 1990s at Iowa State University. The material contains certain proteins that inhibit germination, so it must be applied at the correct time in the spring, said Nick Christians, a horticulture professor at Iowa State.

Cheltenham, Pa., resident Mark Goodman, who owns a lawn and garden care company called Earthcraft, says the product does a good job of keeping out dandelions.

Some homeowners use no products whatsoever, of course, and just mow whatever comes up.

Then there are those who've taken a radical approach:

Getting rid of the lawn altogether. Little by little, Joan Leonard replaced sections of her Collingswood, N.J., backyard with perennials, until the whole thing was one big garden.

Leonard, an occupational therapist who is a borough commissioner, treats her yard with compost made from her kitchen waste. She gets rid of weeds the old-fashioned way — by hand.

"The grass just seemed like a nuisance," Leonard said. "You just cut it down, and it's nothing but weeds anyway."

"Green" lawn tips

Build a compost pile with grass

Then there are those who've taken a

approach: Getting rid of the lawn altogether. Little by little, Joan Leonard replaced sections of her Collingswood, N.J., backyard with perennials, until the whole thing was one big garden.

clippings, leaves, and other organic material. Use compost as mulch or natural fertilizer to improve soil health.

Cut your lawn at the highest recommended mower setting and leave clippings in place. "Grass-cycling" is a great source of nitrogen and saves water and fertilizer.

Water lawns only but to the depth of 1 inch. Cover bare soil with mulch. Prevent fertilizing with debris and pot water sources on lawns. Use pesticides where they are needed.

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Accessory

PAGE 3

known to quality and luxury," says, "They know how to and are really brand-aware. Important events in their lives, the best money can buy," jewelry companies are than happy to comply.

Mayors campaign a few ago spoke to this issue. You have seen the ad: "She delivered your first born; now give her accompanied by a pair of diamond earrings."

ND, best known for teddy has gotten in on the act, too, with a fine jewelry collection. The star of the show is the Diamond necklace — a big fat hanging on a Mr. T-sized chain. "I may want to leave that off while young Junior. It can cost up to \$10,000."

Krodel is all for it. "These gifts also seen as tokens of appreciation and way of saying, 'I value family and tradition,'" says Krodel. "It's also a reminder to the child that you have this beautiful tradition."

Mashed stuff aside, push presents are an almost sure-fire way of improving labor relations.

"At least I knew I wasn't going to get yelled at," says Mitch Morison, a 34-year-old Weston, Fla., father of three who presented wife, Jan, 35, with two diamond heart pendants and a whopper pink sapphire ring — before each birth. Total estimated cost: \$7,000.

Nowza. "Sure, I got brownie points," says Mitch, a CFO at a real estate firm, "but I'm gonna get loved by my friends at work when they find out."

Given traditionally after the baby is born, so-called push presents — stacked 18K gold rings studded with birthstones; baby shoe charms drizzled with diamonds; gem-encrusted timepieces mounted on pink or blue croc-skin bands — are all the yuppie rage.

cause the infant's coming-home outfit had duckies on it.) "Believe it or not, but 'quack-quack' was her first word, not Mommy or Daddy," says Carina. "The jewelry definitely represents her."

But even when you do shell out, there's no guarantee she'll like it.

"For Max born September 2004 he bought me a Humpty Dumpty charm, but I just didn't want my son to be associated with that," says Carina, who exchanged the \$3,400 roly poly white-gold egg man for a race car studded with diamonds. "My son is very into cars now, so it's weird, it seems like the presents dictated their personalities."

"I'm looking forward to seeing what the next one will be."

Let's hope the third time's the charm, Rick ...

Indeed, the pressure can mount for these giving types. Could it be because they don't have a choice in the matter?

"I can see that there would be this sense of expecting something for the following births if you've already received one present," says Debbie Hochman, 37, a Plantation, Fla., mother of three who snagged diamond studs, a mother of pearl chain and a diamond tennis bracelet after each birth. ("I keep having kids, otherwise I don't get jewelry," she jokes.)

pletely lost on Debbie. Her first born, Leo, now, 8, calls the studs "his" earrings. "He knows that Daddy gave them to me because he was born," she says.

The Hochman family seems to have hit on the right reason to run out and cash in the IRA: It's a nice thing to do.

A nice thing to do that's bound to win you points at home.

"Gift giving is something that people like to do; they're just looking for an occasion," he says. "And to buy a pure luxury item for your wife, if you can, is a way of showing her she's special."

Good luck, guys.

Getting it right

Here are a few tips from Sydnei Terry, director of marketing for Mayors Jewelers, on getting the ideal push present:

■ **Make it personalized:** "Choose something that showcases the baby's birthstone," says Terry. "An item that can feature the baby's name and birth date or a locket so mom can keep baby's photo near to her heart."

■ **Make it something you can add onto later:** Some possibilities: a charm bracelet, with individual trinkets that can be bought separately, or a birthstone necklace or bracelet to which you can add on the stones for each birth.



CELEBRATING ARIEN: Pam Morgan got a diamond pendant and this sapphire and diamond ring to celebrate the birth of Arien.



CHASING THE NEW ARRIVAL: Choosing push presents that bring the new mom and her new together makes the gift significant.

understandable. This is one that doesn't come cheap. Especially if you're planning on having brood.

Gomez, 40, of Davie, Fla., one of the lucky ones: the birth of her first child, Jessica, now 2, coincided with Christmas.

sales rep killed two birds in one by getting wife, Carina, pregnant with their third child, whimsical Aaron Basha, a diamond made of ivory and gold, studded with diamond ducks. (A meaning for the couple be-

Husband Jeff Hochman, 39, would rather the pricey tokens be called "appreciation presents." The trial lawyer views the gems in a less material way.

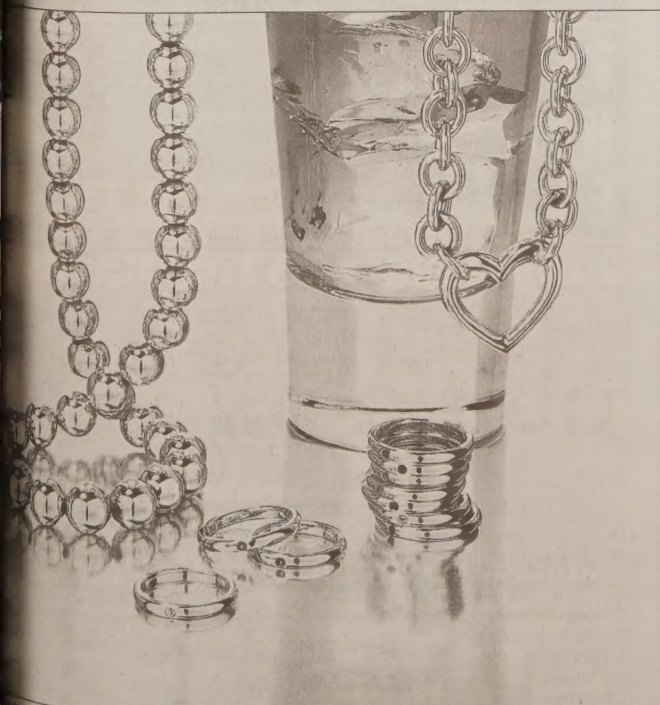
"Debbie had two summer babies, she went through a lot; especially with the first birth," he says. "Pregnancy is an emotional and uncertain journey, and at the end of this journey you get this wonderful child. I wanted to celebrate that."

Where's a cloning machine when you need one? The sentimental factor isn't com-

■ **MAKE IT UNIQUE:** Maybe it's an heirloom piece that your grandmother wore. The significance won't be lost on the new mom.

■ **Make it about the family:** This isn't Valentine's Day — it's a celebration of a new kid. Intertwining hearts, or double hearts are popular. A three-stone diamond ring or pendant can signify "mother, father, baby."

■ **Make it last:** An when in doubt, you really can't go wrong with diamonds.



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Beware of the 'dark side': How to keep kids safe while surfing the Internet

MS
Kids today are coming of age online. According to a recent survey by the research firm Harris Interactive, teenagers spend more time online than they do watching television.

Young people ages 13 to 24 spend an average of 16.7 hours a week online, excluding writing and responding to e-mail, as compared to 13.6 hours a week watching TV. The Internet can be a wonderful learning tool for children. Online, they are exposed to a wealth of information, and they can play games and communicate with other kids all over the world.

But the Internet has a dark side as well. Besides the plethora of unsuitable content your kids could be exposed to — including pornography and hate sites (think anti-Semitic, neo-Nazi or KKK sites) — the people children meet online can sometimes take advantage of them.

Predators convince children that they can be trusted. At best, they entice children to reveal personal information and, at worst, they arrange offline meetings where anything goes.

In addition to these horror stories, there are plenty of other issues parents need to worry about, like privacy theft, spam (unsolicited junk mail) and spyware, which tracks people on the Internet and sends invasive and inappropriate advertisements to their computers.

Today's kids come from a technological world, making many more tech-savvy than their parents. However just because a child is proficient with technology doesn't mean he understands that there are people online who may take advantage of him.

Kids have a tendency to blindly trust people, which makes them easy targets. That's why when it comes to the issue of online safety, parents are the experts — not children. That said, the rules for being safe online aren't much different from the rules for being safe out in the real world.

What you can do

■ Keep an open dialogue between you and your child to establish trust. Don't be afraid to

talk to your children about what they do online.

■ Ask them what sites they routinely visit. Make it clear that you won't get angry if your child tells you about an experience that made him or her uncomfortable.

■ Remind your child that talking to friends she already knows online is fun, but that she should not "chat" with strangers online.

■ Teach her that if she finds herself in an uncomfortable situation, she should log off right away and tell you, a teacher or another responsible adult.

■ Place the computer in the family den or living room where you can more easily monitor your child's Internet activity, and don't be afraid to approach your child while she's online.

■ Discuss her Web activity, and monitor what she's doing. Treat the Internet like you would television. Set clear-cut guidelines about what she can and cannot do online, and how much time she can spend on the computer per day (homework excluded).

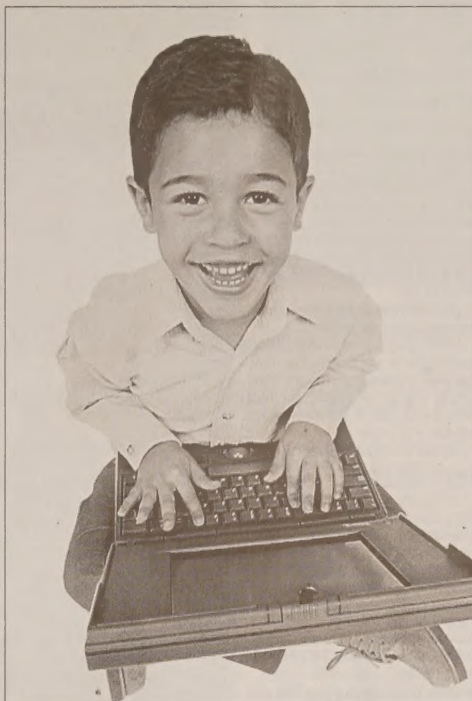
■ Make it clear that these rules stand firm, not just in your house, but in school and at friends' houses as well.

One major problem with children and the Internet is that they often have trouble distinguishing between legitimate and illegitimate Web sites.

Go over a list of Web sites that you approve of and explain that new sites are not to be viewed until you approve them. Tell your child that he should never disclose personal information to anyone online, including his name, e-mail address, phone number, login name or password, or where he lives or goes to school.

Instruct your child to ask your permission before filling out online forms which require personal information. Print out a set of rules that your child should follow, and post it next to the computer for easy reference. One good set of guidelines can be found at www.safekids.com/kidsrules.htm.

There are also software programs available to help parents protect their children while they surf the Internet. The popular Internet service provider AOL offers parental control settings that limit



Instruct your child to ask your permission before filling out online forms which require personal information. Print out a set of rules that your child should follow, and post it next to the computer for easy reference.

the content children can access online, depending on their age group.

Software programs like Net-Nanny and Cybersitter block offensive Web sites and prevent children from entering personal information online. Such software can also log instant message conversations and keep detailed histories of what sites your child visited while online. Then you the parent can be e-mailed a daily activity report.

The Internet has become a dominant entertainment, educa-

tion and communications channel in our children's lives, and it brings with it great benefits. But because the Internet is a two-way medium where children not only get information but give it out as well, it's important to ensure that your child is surfing the Web safely.

By creating an open dialogue, participating in your child's Web experience, and setting strict guidelines, you can make the Internet a fun, educational and rewarding experience for you and your entire family.

SURFING THE WEB SHOULD BE FUN: But be open. Sit down with your children and give them a list of Web sites you approve of. Tell them that they are not to visit any site on the list. Remind them time and again that they should never disclose personal information to anyone online, including e-mail addresses, phone numbers and login names. Children should be especially careful not to tell anyone where they go to school.

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